Opinion polls and falling output figures deliver double blow to Tory strategists

Labour takes a five-point lead

was shaken by new gloomy

manufacturing output fig-ures showing a bigger than expected fall in January. The

Central Statistical Office fig-nies fuelled City fears that the recession, which is already

the longest for 60 years, could

continue for at least the

Manufacturing industry.

which fell 0.4 per cent in

BY ROBIN OAKLEY AND NICHOLAS WOOD

a five-point lead over the Conservatives, according to the two latest opinion polls published last night against the background of renewed economic gloom.

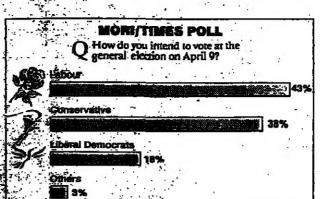
A Mori survey for The Times, conducted on Monday, gives Labour 43 per cent support. Conservatives 38 per cent, Liberal Democrats 16 per cent and others 3 per cent. The figures increase Labour's lead by two points when compared with last week's Mori survey for The Times. Support for the Conservatives has remained the same, with backing for "oth-

ers" dwindling. If the findings were repeated on a uniform swing in the general election, they would give Labour an overall majorty of 332 seats and the Con-

LABOUR has moved into seats. However, the result would be unlikely to see Labour through a full

An ICM poll to be published in The Guardian to-day, measured support for the three main parties at exactly the same level as the Mori findings. The ICM poll was also conducted on Monday. The Mori and ICM results

are the kind of shock which Conservative strategists have been dreading. City responses to last week's rumoting that an opinion poll had given Labour a similar lead suggest that there will be a strong adverse reaction when mar-kets open today. That could start a vicious circle for the Tories pressure on the pound would end the Chancellor's interest rates before the election and could threaten an



Labour's 43 per cent rating is the highest level of support the party has enjoyed since early January, before the Conservatives launched an assault on the Opposition's tax policies. The 5 per cent poll lead is also the biggest

The Mori findings emerged as the Tory campaign

Party leaders hit the hustings and education tops the election agenda. Full analysis. . . 6-11

Anatole Kaletsky. Diary....Leading article L&T section

0.7 per cent drop in output in January. Overall industrial production fell 1:3 per cent, reflecting a big drop in energy output, which last year tended to flatter the output

The three-month comparison, preferred by the Treary, was almost as gloomy. This showed an 0.7 per cent cent fall in industrial output

the same period a year ago. The three-month comparison also showed a 0.9 per cent drop in manufacturing output over the past three months and 3.3 per cent reduction on the same period a

John Major sought to

steady Tory nerves by arguing that the January production snapshot was already out of date and that the country was ready for recovery once the general election was over. He emphasised that other figures, particularly inflation, were encouraging. "The outhistorical and they are mirrored in most of the other industrial countries of the world," the prime minister said during a campaign trip in Lincolnshire. "We are now getting ourselves into a pos-

ition where we can lift out of

recession and that is what everyone wants to see."

Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said the figures were appalling". Speaking during a visit to Bristol, he said: "They are much worse than City analysts expected and worse than we expected. They demonstrate the longest re-cession since the 1930s is also now turning into one of the

deepest since the 1930s." Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said: "I think this country now faces the very dangerous prospect of sliding from recession into

slump."
The Mori figures indicate that there could be sharp fluctuations in party support in a closely contested election. A Harris poll for yesterday's Daily Express gave the Conservatives a three-point lead, equalling their best this year. The margin of error in these party's share of the vote.

Ministers argued when Con-Continued on page 18, col 6

Business

group

goes for

Kinnock

BY ROBIN OAKLEY

POLITICAL EDITOR

GROUP of businessmen

headed by the Labour peer Lord Hollick writes to The

Times today to insist that the

country "desperately needs"

abour's commitment to in-

dustry and to long-term

Their letter is in response to

a group of company chair-men and chief executives who

wrote to The Times yesterday

urging support for the Con-servatives in the election.

The group of Labour sup-

porters today includes Lord

Hollick, Paul Hamiyn, Jarvis

Astaire, Michael Montague

and Lord Gregson. They wel-

come Labour's shadow bud-

vative", setting the framework in which a real

recovery from recession could

begin. They applaud the "re-distribution of income from

the top 10 per cent to every-one else" as "a welcome net

boost to overall demand in

Continued on page 18, col 1

Letters, page 15

the economy".

TODAY IN THE TIMES

TRUE BLUE **SEES RED**



is ready to fight her own party for her jailed son page 5

SHADES OF GREY



Philip Howard attacks our cold, bossy, patronising treatment of the aged Page 14

OLD RUSSIA RESCUE ACT



The Duchess of Abercorn has a mission to help St Petersburg Life & Times page 4

£3bn merger to make Midland biggest bank

By Neil Bennett, Banking correspondent

MIDLAND Bank is planning a £3 billion merger with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation in a move which will crease the largest bank in Britain and one of the world's most powerful financial institutions.

The two banks surprised the City yesterday by an-nouncing that they had resumed merger talks more than a year after they were called off. Midland's shares soared by 76p to 329p. The Hongkong bank is now pre-paring a bid for Midland. specied to value it at 350p-400p a share. The Midland's

Britons told to quit Libya

British citizens in Libya were advised by the Foreign Office to leave the country immediately after the UN security council was asked to sever air links and halt arms sales to Colonel Gadaffi. Britain, France and the United States discussed Libya's refusal to extradite two Libyans accused of the Pan Am bombing over Lockerbie in

Poll boost

ADIO 4

2.22 %

South Africa's white voters turned out in large numbers, boosting President de Klerk's hopes of winning the "yes" vote he seeks in the referendum on his constitutional

Show gamble The latest theatrical gamble of Cameron Mackintosh, Moby Dick, was presented at the Piccadilly

Sailing shock Relatives who launched their own inquiry into the loss of the trawler, Pescado, with six lives a year ago have discovered the ship sailed without a safety

.... Page 18

certificate Page 5 INDEX Births, marriages. deaths... Crossword LIFE & TIMES Concise Crossword

Employers seeking chief ex-ecutives, managers and other senior staff are advertising tomorrow in 13 pages of appointments in the Life &



four million customers are unlikely to be affected by the move because the Hongkong bank has no plans to alter its are no plans for large-scale redundancies. Midland's customers can aiready use their cash machine cards in Hongkong bank's branches in Asia, the Middle East and

The merger would relieve Midland, once the largest bank in the world, from more than a decade of problems. These stemmed from its acquisition of Crocker National Bank in California in 1980. The bank reported heavy its lending to the Third World, and was forced to cut its dividend in half last year when profits sank to only £11

The deal needs to be approved by the Bank of England and may face a Mono-polies and Mergers Commission enquiry or an investigation by the European Commission. In 1981, the commission blocked a bid by the Hongkong bank for the Royal Bank of Scotland since it opposed the foreign ownership of a key British bank.

Since then, however, the Hongkong bank has moved its registered base to Britain and will shift its headquarters to London if the deal goes

The combined group will have the widest spread of international operations of any bank worldwide, and control assets worth £145 billion. Barclays, Britain's largest bank, currently has assets of £138 billion, although both are dwarfed by Dai-Ichi Kangyo in Japan, the world's largest bank, with assets of £270 billion.

The deal will also be watched closely by the Chinese government, since the Hongkong bank is vital to the local economy, and will re-main so after the Chinese takeover of the colony in 1997. The bank said it was keeping the Peking authorities informed of its plans.

£3bn merger, page 19 Oriental marriage, page 23



after presenting them with shamrocks on St Patrick's Day, a ceremony dating from 1900, the year of her birth

Old party stage farmyard farce

With an added touch of farce it was a reversion to the conspiratorial tradi-tions of the bolsheviks. The diehard remnant of the once mighty Soviet Communist party was yesterday reduced to meeting in a farmyard building illuminated by candlelight and, intermittently, by a single light bulb powered by a car battery.

The attempt by a few hundred anti-Yeltsin communists to reconvene the full Soviet parliament and resurrect the Soviet Union collapsed in hasty and disorganised pro-ceedings in the assembly hall of a collective dairy farm at Podolsk, outside Moscow. In Moscow itself, thou-sands of demonstrators,

mainly older Russians, thronged the streets in sup-port of the communists. They denounced President Yeltsin's market reforms, and de-

A rally of Russia's communist old guard failed to take off and degenerated into farce, Bruce Clark reports from Moscow

clared the "reinstatement of Soviet power".

The hardliners can present themselves as martyred tribunes of the people. Those with long memories recalled that the bolsheviks had had modest beginnings in a ware-house in London's Totten-ham Court Road in 1903. and had gone on to stage a revolution in Petrograd 14

Yesterday's diehard assembly, however, held at Podolsk because it had been banned in Moscow, showed no such promise. Only a fraction of the old

parliament's 2,250 members attended, bused out of Moscow in six battered coaches. They were ournumbered by the 200 reporters who followed them in a comical car chase to the nondescript farming settlement near

With as much dignity as they could muster in a dreary concrete building whose power supply had been cut off, organisers rattled through their agenda, including the adoption of a string of hardline resolutions which few had time actually to read.

The resolutions insisted that the Soviet Union and its parliament still existed; denounced the break-up of the Soviet army: railed against the idea of Russia joining Namo, and deplored "foreign Continued on page 18, col 3

Leading article, page 15

Big rise in births for over-35s

WELL-EDUCATED women are responsible for a huge increase in the rate of childbearing among women in their thirties, according to an Office of Population Censuses and Surveys study out today.

Changes in the fertility rate of different age groups has diverged for the first time since records began. The overall rate of births increased by 8 per cent in the decade to 1990, bringing the average family size to 1.84 children, but births to women aged 30 and over rose by 30 per cent, and women over 35 experienced a 44 per cent increase.

Careers first, page 4

An Oxfam message to Election **Candidates**



In the next three weeks, 756,000 Third World children will die because of poverty.

A recent opinion poll' shows 74% of people think the Government should do more to help people in the Third World.

For 50 years we have been working alongside poor people to fight poverty.

Our supporters will be asking you, the candidates, what you will do to tackle the poverty that kills a child every 2.4 seconds:

*(NOP; sample 1000 adults, January 1992)



If anyone would like details on Oxfam's Campaign for a Fairer World, or to make a donation, please ring: ~(0865)313131

Or write to: Oxfam, Room BE77, FREEPOST, Oxford, OX2 7BR

Now you can't even vote with your feet

Got any questions nothing to do Election?

BY ALAN HAMILTON

ENERVATED by the election already? Brassed off with the babble, sick of the psephology, jaded with John, immbed by Neil, perfectly paralysed by Paddy? Now would seem the ideal time for all sensible persons rendered catatonic by the campaigning to buy an air ticket and flee the country to some same clime

Don't even think about it. One distressing effect of the new fashion for democracy is that almost the entire world is suffering a global epidemic of electioneering. Few countries can be recommended as entirely safe, and medical science has yet to develop an inoculation against the infection that reliable old standby inchboot digratorship. able old standby, jackboot dictatorship. So you thought you might hop over to France until the British outbreak had

been brought under control? An unwise

move: the French hold their regional elections this Sunday and, being the French, have to have another round on March 29. Italy? Highly dangerous: the Italians, who suffer enclessly from hung parliaments, go to the polls on April 5 and 6. Avoid Germany, too: Schleswig-Holstein and Baden-Wurttemberg are even now dusting down the ballot boxes. Denmark? Heavens, no: it is winding up for a referendum on the Maastricht summit. And avoid Andorra: its general

election is four days before our own. America is, of course, absolutely riddled with the virus, and do not imagine that even the uttermost corners of the union are in any way sanitary: the American Virgin Islands hold their caucus on March 28. The disease has been endemic in the US since George Washington caught it from Tom Paine and other European carriers, but it is now almost as rife in the newly exposed nations of the east. Russia has become a hopeless

mous republic of Tatarstan on Saturday, and another sweeping across the whole of Siberia next week. Even Albania is having one on Sunday.

Somewhere further afield, perhaps? Quite hopeless. The South Korean general election is on Tuesday, and the golden beaches of Phuket will be polluted by polling day in Thailand on April 5. Also avoid Iran: parliamentary elections strike there on April 10. And forget heading for Timbuktu: it is, sadly, situated in the republic of Mali, whose

presidential election is on April 12. Experts have identified 58 countries expected to suffer from elections this year. Among the few regarded as safe in the short term is China. But check before booking, and always take precautions, such as avoiding unprotected contact with local newspapers and television. Innocent they may seem, but they could be carriers.

Rover deal guarantees workers jobs for life

By Kevin Eason, motoring correspondent

ALMOST 35,000 Rover workers are about to agree to the most revolutionary deal in the British car industry, guaranteeing jobs for life. Union leaders yesterday

Union leaders yesterday recommended acceptance of new Japanese-style working practices in return for the guarantees. Details will be outlined to the Midlands-based workforce in time for a ballot early next month.

Unions have been negotiating for two months on com-

Suspicion lingers on shopfloor

ROVER workers arriving at Longbridge yesterday greeted the new deal with suspicion although many were anxious to make changes that would improve the company.

Michael Wright, aged 43, will become a team leader of 15 men under the new system. "Greater flexibility is the main thing. Certain people do certain jobs but now there will be greater mobility of labour," he said.

Mike Blakeway, an engine stamper, said: "It will be an

Mike Blakeway, an engine stamper, said: "It will be an improvement because it will make us more versatile... It is boring doing the same thing all day." David Cutler, a seat builder, and also a shop steward, was suspicious of the "jobs for tife" guarantee. "The idea that everybody is equal is all very well but there are going to be some people more equal than others."

Finbar Madden, who works in the hot test section, said: "They are trying to introduce a foreign culture's ideas and it will not work. It think there will be trouble and strife until they shelve it."

pany proposals to counter the threat from Japanese factories setting up in the UK. Working from greenfield sites and with young workforces, the Japanese "transplants"

are setting higher productivity targets for British firms.
Rover has already adopted many Japanese techniques to make its Longbridge plant at Birmingham one of the most efficient in Europe but further efficiencies are needed if Rover is to improve its position and remain competitive. George Simpson, Rover's chairman, has said improvements in efficiency of about 30 per cent will be needed in

the next three years.

Unions were asked to abandon demarcation lines to allow assembly workers to move between different jobs. The reward for increasing productivity will be the guarantee of job security, the only guarantee of its kind offered in mainstream manufacturing industry in Britain. Only Nissan at Washington, Tyne and Wear, offers similar pled-

ges in the car industry.

Mr Simpson wants a "cradle to grave" career structure allowing white and blue coliar workers the opportunity of advancement and freedom from fear of sudden unemployment. The agreement will prevent compulsory redundancies although enhanced retirement and voluntary redundancy deals will still be available. Clocking on will also be abolished if workers agree to the deal.

Rover has taken the most radical step in the industry by trying to make its changes at once throughout the company. It had little choice its 35,000 workers make 400,000 cars a year from two plants; Nissan, with 3,000 assembly workers, is scheduled to produce 270,000 at Washington by next year.

Orphan hears for first time

By Ray Clancy

ATTILA Erdei, an orphan aged five from Romania, yesterday returned to his homeland after medical treatment in Northern Ireland which has enabled him to hear properly for the first time.

Doctors at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children have fitted Attila with
two hearing aids giving him
almost perfect hearing.
After a month of treatment
he is already stringing words
together and his favourite
pastime is listening to music.
"We speak to him in Romanian so he does not get confused by English words,"
Iosif Ovidiu, project director
with Express Aid International, a Belfast based chari-

Two physically handicapped orphans will visit Belfast later this year for six months of medical treatment and Attila, who was found wandering the streets of Arad by a policeman, will return in December for further treatment. Express Aid International is also involved in exchange schemes to bring Romanian doctors to Belfast for specialised training and is planning to sent British doctors to Romania to run courses in hospitals.



Switched on: Attila Erdei happily wearing the new aids that have given him almost perfect hearing

Duke invited to meet Greek Orthodox leader

THE Duke of Edinburgh, born into the Greek Orthodox faith but received into the Anglican church on his marriage to the future superme governor of the Church of England in 1947, has been invited to Turkey in May to meet members of the eastern's faith's minority community in that officially secular but predominantly

Islamic state.

Buckingham Palace yesterday refused to confirm that the duke, who is currently abroad, had any entry in his diary for a trip to Turkey. He is, however, confidently expected to arrive in the country in a private capacity of meet Bartholomew I, the recently installed ecomenical patriarch who leads Turkey's

Alan Hamilton and Andrew Finkel in Istanbul report on how the Duke of Edinburgh's environmental concerns are leading him back towards the church into which he was born

tiny enclave of 5,000 Orthodox adherents, and who takes a strong line on environmental issues.

Sources in Ankara, the Turkish capital, said yesterday that the duke had been invited to visit a theological seminary closed by the Turkish authorities in the 1970s when the country was under martial law, and to be a guest at a holy synod of the orthodox church that will debate environmental issues.

The Turkish government said yesterday that it had not been informed officially of any visit by the duke, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, through which all royal visits abroad are supposed to be sanctioned, will treat any such visit with mild trepidation, given that the Greek Orthodox church is not only a minority sect in Turkey, but one which has been oppressed in the past.

Martin Palmer, director of

martin Paimer, director or the Manchester-based International Consultancy on Religion, Education and Culture and an adviser on religious affairs to the World Wide Fund for Nature, of which the duke is international president, has been in Turkey arranging the visit. Last week Mr Palmer wrote in The Speciator that the duke's interest in the Orthodox church was profound, and claimed that the Queen's husband found his original faith to have a better understanding of where man stood in relation to God and creation than did the Church of

England.
Buckingham Palace has said that there is no question of the duke abandoning his adopted Anglican faith, a de-

cision that would be virtually impossible given the Queen's position as head of the established church. The duke's interest in the eastern religion is said to be purely on account of its commitment to conservation, and its belief that technological advance is not always compatible with spiritual progress, an issue to which the duke is strongly

committed.

A visit to Turkey by the duke would vastly enhance the standing of Bartholomew I, a barber's son whose domain is a few ramshackle buildings in a run-down part of Istanbul but who regards himself as primus inter pares in a church which claims 300 million adherents in south-

Lockerbie judgment reserved

Scottish police investigating the Lockerbie bombing in 1988 are awaiting a decision from the High Court in London on whether they are entitled to take possession of a journalist's taped interviews with two Libyan agents accused of plotting the attack.

Two judges yesterday reserved judgment on a move by the American ABC News corporation and Pierre Salinger, its chief foreign correspondent in London, to quash an order by Middlesex crown court requiring them to hand over video footage and tape recordings to anti-terrorist police. ABC and Mr Salinger said the order was unlawful and unreasonable because they were not told what information the police had relied on to obtain it.

Libya links, page 18

Libel appeal

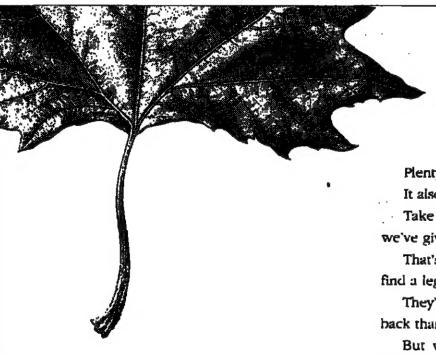
Derbyshire county council is to appeal to the House of Lords after being defeated in a libel action. Last month the appeal court blocked a libel action by the council against Times Newspapers over a story on share-dealing in The Sunday Times. The court ruled the council could not sue to protect its reputation in the way individuals can and it was ordered to pay all the legal costs.

Search resumed

The search for a missing East Kilbride hillwalker was resumed yesterday after bloodstains were discovered in deep snow on Stob Coire nan Lochan, 2,000ft above Glen Coe. Stewart Bryan vanished during a walk in Glen Coe ten days ago. Five days of exhaustive searches of the mountains by rescue teams, sniffer dogs and the RAF produced nothing. Letters, page 15

CORRECTION

Law Times said yesterday that Lord Mishcon, a distinguished solicitor, is a past chairman of the Bar. He is not, and The Times apologises for the error.



Plenty of space. Isn't that what Canada is famous for?

It also happens to be what its national airline. Air Canada, is famous for. Take our Executive Class, for instance. Instead of putting in more seats, we've given our seats more room.

That's why no-one flying to Canada has more legroom than us. You'll find a leg-stretching 45" between you and the seat in front.

They're wide, too. And the recline is big so you can be even more laid back than before.

But what really makes us stand out is the way we've spread our Executive Class. On our new 747–400s it's divided into 3 distinct cabins. So, apart from a feeling of exclusivity, you get room to breathe.

Which leads us to the subject of air in the cabin.

Relax. Seats in our executive class are few and far between.

Because there are five separate areas of air distribution, the quality of air circulating in the cabin is a lot cleaner. And a lot less dry:

So, instead of drinking gallons of water, you can perhaps indulge insome fine wines, teas and coffees that we serve with our food.

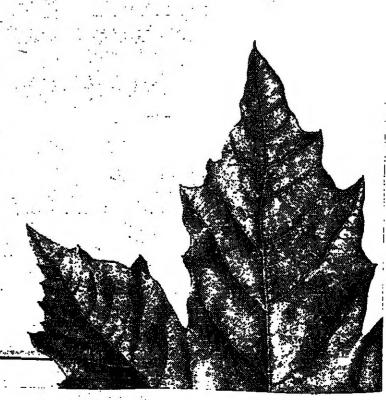
A lot of which, by the way, is what we call NutriCuisine. This means it's low in salt, sugar and fat. And given 24 hours notice, our chefs can prepare a variety of cuisines for those people with special diets.

Also, as this choice is available to you on more flights to more destinations in Canada, you've now got plenty of food for thought,

For further details, why not visit your travel agency or call 081 759 2636 from London (0800 18 13 13 from elsewhere in the UK).



A BREATH OF FRESH AIR



MAK:

Shot planning chief 'ignored advice' on demolishing home

THE council planning officer shot dead in a televised confrontation over a bungalow built without planning permission ignored advice from police and lawyers about how the demolition should be car-ried out, a court was told

Senior officers and the solicitor to Derwentside council in Co Durham urged that Albert Dryden, the bungalow owner, should not be told in advance of the day the bulldozers were to move in to knock down the building. Their advice was overruled by Harry Collinson, the council's senior planning officer, and the authority's planning committee, who insisted that the demolition be carried out openly. A letter was sent to Mr Dryden, notifying him of the details and timing, Newcastle upon Tyne crown court was told.

When council officers and demolition workers turned up on June 20 last year, Mr Dryden, aged 51, who had previously threatened violence in defence of his home, was waiting for them. The jury was told that when Mr Collinson refused to order the bulldozers away, Mr Dryden

rebuked

for adverts

As onlookers, including police and journalists, fled, Mr Dryden fired 11 more shots, the jury was told. Mr Collinson was shot again, in the chest and head, as he lay

mortally wounded in a ditch. Tony Belmont, a BBC television reporter, and PC Stephen Campbell were shot and wounded as the cameras contimed to record. That evening, the incident was seen by millions of viewers on tele-

Mr Dryden, of Consett, Co Durham, denies murdering Mr Collinson at the bungalow in Butsfield. He also denies attempting to murder Mr Belmont and PC Campbell and Michael Dunston, a council solicitor. He denies wounding the television reporter and a policeman.

On the second day of the trial yesterday. Mr Dunston told the jury that he had attended a meeting of council days before the demolition was due to be carried out. He said: "The police thought that Mr Dryden should not be told the day and time of the demolition. There was

Whitehall Jail escape total reaches 35

By RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

year or last year have re-

turned to prison. Last year

184 prisoners escaped from jails in England and Wales,

110 fled from escorts, and

In the latest escape, Greg-ry Crabtree, aged 26, of

Feltham, west London, and

Michael Johnson, aged 24, of

South Harrow, northwest

London, scaled the wall of

Maidstone jail using a rope

Crabtree was serving a sen-

tence for firearms and rob-

bery offences as well as a

previous escape from jail.

Johnson was jailed for theft,

burglary and possession of

Police, who were checking

addresses in the Home Coun-

ties yesterday, described both

men as dangerous and

warned the public not to ap-

proach them.

made of knotted sheets.

1.650 absconded.

ed for publishing misleading advertisements which im-THE escape on Monday night of two prisoners from Maidstone jail, Kent, has plied that recent bad weather and the hurricane of 1987 were caused by global warmbrought to 35 the number of ing (Alison Roberts writes). prisoners who have escaped The campaign by the de-partments of energy and envifrom jails in England and Wales this year.

ronment was designed to A further 22 have fled while encourage energy conservabeing escorted ourside jails by prison staff and 304 have absconded, usually while on home leave. The Home Ofdards Authority said that the connection between global warming and the hurricane fice, however, is unable to say has not been proved.

The headline, above six how many of those who have escaped or absconded this

pictures of the after-effects of the 1987 storm, said: "Global Warming. We have been warmed." The headline was qualified in smaller print: Scientists are not yet able to say if the Great Storm of 1987 and the 'hurricanes' of 1989 and 1990 are among the first signs of of global warming." The authority upheld complaints and ruled that the overall impression of the posters was misleading.

Arms dealer on murder charge

An arms dealer has appeared in court accused of conspiring to murder David Wilson, the businessman killed at his home in Lancashire by two masked gunmen 12 days ago. Stephen Schepke, aged 44, of Sidcup, Kent, was remanded in custody for seven days by magistrates in Chorley.

A police investigation is continuing into the death of Mr Wilson, aged 47, a partner in an accountancy firm, who was shot twice in the head in the garage of his home while his family was held hostage in the house.

Tapes enquiry

155

Criminal or disciplinary action is being considered against 12 West Midlands police drugs squad detectives after a Police Complaints Authority report into complaints against them by Stafford Douglas, aged 42. Mr Douglas, who was acquitted on drug charges at Birmingham last year, secretly recorded conversations with one of the officers, who he alleged tried to blackmail him into becoming an informant.

Bomb found

An unexploded second world war bomb was removed from the loft of a house in Nottingham. Doris Shelton, who moved into the house before the war, said: "I can remember the air raid in April 1941. Two people were killed next door and our house was damaged but they must have missed the bomb when it was repaired." The army destroyed the bomb in a con-trolled explosion.

Gun accident

A member of Scotland Yard's royalty and diplomatic protection group was resting comfortably in hospital last night after accidentally shooting himself in the leg during training at Waltham Abbey. Essex. The wound, caused by a plastic training round, was described as not serious but the man. aged 31, was flown to hospital in Epping.

shot him through the chest another opinion that it with a revolver. open. I thought that, in view of the history of the matter, it should not be done openly.

> Dryden insisted that he had been promised a reprieve while the planning authorities considered his appeal. A letter telling him that his appeal was invalid arrived the day after the shooting.

> technician in the council's planning department, told the court that he had been taking photographs at the scene when he saw Mr Dryden raise his revolver and shoot Mr Collinson. He and a colleague, who had been making a video recording of the events, ran down the road and took cover behind a parked van. Mr Dryden began walking towards there and then returned to the ditch where Mr Collinson had fallen after the first shot,

turned towards them.

Mr Belmont, aged 39, told the court that he ran for safety

had since undergone four operations on a shattered bone in his right arm. He still had a steel plate in his forearm and had not recovered the full use of his hand because of a

damaged nerve.
PC Campbell told the court that, as Mr Dryden aping to keep covered. There was a general air of panic and I was conscious that Dryden

Helen Dodd, an officer at

The court was told that Mr

Michael Allun, aged 22, a

Mr Allun said: "He pointed the gun and shot what I imed was Harry's body." When Mr Dryden walked off again, still firing, Mr Allun and his colleague went to see if they could help Mr Collinson. "We saw him lying in the ditch. We couldn't tell if he was dead," he said. The pair stayed for only 30 seconds before they again had to run for cover when Mr Dryden

after seeing Mr Collinson shot. "I turned and I was hit in the right arm. There was a general melée, a panic People were running for their lives. I just had a feeling I had to get out of there because the pain was quite tremendous. I was afraid I and my colleagues might be shot again."

Mr Belmont said that he

proached the gate of the property, he saw that the hammer of his gun was cocked. He said: "No words were spoken and shots were then fired. I was behind the excavator trywas coming through the fence. I thought I had better run as fast as I could. I got shot in the lower back and felt

Consett county court, said that, two months before the shooting, Mr Dryden had visited her office to ask if he. could take out an injunction against the council for trespassing on his land. She said that she advised him to see a solicitor, but he became agi-tated, threatening: "I will take a gun to the lot of them."



Family firm: Donovan, the 1960s pop singer, in London yesterday with his daughter, Astrella Celeste, aged 21. She is a member of his new band which is touring Britain for Friends of the Earth's 21st anniversary fundraising event in May. Bike to the Future

Golf courses ruin rural heritage, says trust

THE National Trust yesterday voiced its concern over the recession in agriculture and the threat to the livelihoods of tenant farmers. The countryside was man-

made, even in the uplands, and its quality and rich variety, which the trust was required to protect, had been centuries in the making. "Neither extensive farming. nor setaside when it takes the form of golf courses or huge conifer plantations, are the answer. The latter destroy what we seek to protect." Lord Chorley, the trust's chairman, said in a preface to its annual report.

As the nation's largest private landowner, the trust was concerned about the future of British agriculture and the massive changes now affect-ing the farming community. "It is important to us that our 1,200 tenant farmers, and the rural communities of which they are part, should osper," he said. "Moreover, agricultural rents are an important, albeit declining, source of income." Lord Chorley was con-

cerned particularly about the future of upland sheep farming. Farms in the Lake District, the Peak District, the Yorkshire dales and moors, and upland Wales were traditionally dependent on their flocks, and without them would no longer be working farms, he said. Sheep were effective lawnmowers and without them vegetation would change, with heather replacing grass, and scrub and woodland developing at lower altitudes,

While welcoming the con-cept of environmentally sensitive areas and the new countryside stewardship scheme, the trust said it would like to see special incentives to ensure a viable future for sheep farming.
Angus Stirling, the trust's

director-general, said yester-day that many older tenant farmers were unwilling to enover because they did not see any future in farming Lord Chorley also drew at-

tention vesterday to the threat from new road schemes, about 40 of which affected trust

Fountains Abbey & Studiey Royal, N Yorks Stourhead Garden, Withshire St Michilel's Mount, Cornwall Styal, Quarry Bank Mill, Cheshire Polesden Lacay, Surrey Wakehurst Place, West Sussex Sissinghurst, Kent Bodnant Garden, Gwynedd Chartwell, Kent Bodiam Castle, East Sussex Corte Castle, Dorset Tanhydrock, Cornwall

300,087 228,399

CONCERN over a decline in properties. Among them were improvements to the A3 where it crossed the Devil's Punch Bowl near Hindhead. Surrey; the A5 at the entrance

to the Snowdonia national park in North Wales; and the A35 in Dorset which would cross part of the Golden Cap. The trust accepted that new roads were needed, but would like to see a change in "cultur-al attitudes" within the trans-port department. "They are engineers, and they like building roads," Lord Chorley said. The number of paying visi-

tors to trust properties last year fell by 4 per cent, and finances were also affected by the rise in value-added tax and by stricter rules govern-ing covenants. However, the trust was able to increase expenditure by nearly, 18 per cent to £82 million, largely due to the generosity of

in an attempt to counter the rise in thefts from its properties, the trust will ban all internal photography by visitors from the beginning of next month. The fear is that thieves may use cameras to pinpoint the location of pictures and ornaments to help a night-time raid.

Nature group issues plea for real forests

By Kerry Gill

natural woodland in Scotland has led environmental bodies to call for a review of forest policy aimed at creat-ing authentic woods and forests instead of huge clumps of conifers "with frilly edges". The Scottish Wildlife and

Countryside Link, a group of 22 conservation and recreation bodies, today publishes a paper on how forests should be developed. It said that the planning target of the government and the Forestry Commission, of 33,000 hectares a year, had no rational basis and did not indicate where forests should be created or what type they should be.
Andy Wightman, editor of

the report, said: "For stry policy has been, until recently, centred around timber production. We have had timber production policies deciding what type of forests we should have. This paper concen-trates on the creation of real woods and forests rather than plantations of fast-growing

conifers with frilly edges." Mr Wightman said that there had to be a more holistic approach. Policy should cover recycling, timber imports, the water table and rural development. The paper says that forests should be designed to bring environmenbenefits while avoiding harm to wildlife, archaeological sites, farmland and access Most of Scotland used to be natural forest, including oak,

Scots pine and rowan. Only 14 per cent is now under trees, of which only 1 per cent is native woodland. Conservationists yesterday

began a campaign to replace the Exmoor national park board with an elected local authority with wide powers to protect the area (Douglas Broom writes). The Exmoor Society said reorganisation of local government, promised by the main political parties, offered a chance to form a

unitary authority.

The national park straddles the Somerset/Devon boundary and is in the jurisdiction of at least three district councils. The park board, with wide planning powers, is a committee of Somerset county council, with a third of it government-appointed...

Guy Somerset, the society chairman, said: "Everything that happens in the national park affects its character."

However, Jenny Cunningham, of the Council for National Parks, a charity, said: "It would take away the ciarity of vision that national park boards now have by bogging them down in details like providing school dinners."

Theatre deal assures future of ENO

BY SIMON TAFT ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH National Opera assured its future yesterday by buying its home, the Coliseum, for £12.8 million with the help of a last minute grant by the government.
Peter Jonas, general director of the ENO, said: "Every step we have taken over the last eight years has been with the knowledge that the ease was coming up in 1996. This is a tremendous moment because at last that spectre is no longer with

First news of the govern-ment grant came on Mon-day, the last day of official Commons business before the election, when Tim Renton, the arts minister, hinted through a Hansard announcement that a £10.8 million unspecified grant from the Treasury reserve fund was to be made. The same afternoon, contracts were signed by ENO and Stoll Moss Theatres after receiving the government grant and a further £2 million from the pools companies' Foundation for

Sport and the Arts. Mr Jonas, Mark Elder, his musical director, and David Pountney, director of productions, have been involved in secret negotiations with Stoll Moss Theatres for a year. All three are leaving next year, and Mr Jonas had given until this April to re-

solve the matter. "Having the freehold means a quite different attitude to the theatre in terms of working on it, producing



Going for a song the Coliseum sold for £12.8m

in it, and raising investment to help us." he said. ENO now has to raise

another £20 million for refurbishment and repairs at the theatre with a new rehearsal room and acoustic repairs as priorities.

The company had been in deadlock with the former Stoll Moss owner, Robert Holmes à Court, who found the 50-year lease at £350,000 a year rent "unrealistic". He saw the Coliseum as the jewel in his Stoll

Only after he died in September 1990 did talk of a after 1996.

Moss crown, not for sale, and carried out negotiations

sale begin. Richard Johnston, managing director of Stoll Moss who took on the negotiations, said that the apparent bargain price was better than an unrealitic rent and an uncertain future

The ceiling in the dress

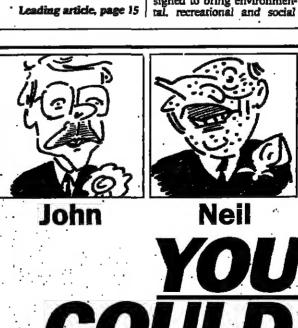
circle has recently collapsed under the weight of rain-water and a speedy repair of part of the roof was carried out with a sponsorship of £168,000. Walls are streaked and blackened, carets threadbare, paintwork flaked and plasterwork crumbling to uncover bare brick underneath.

The gilded plaster on the front of the royal box is bad-ly chipped, and the golden ions on top of the boxes on either side of the stage have lost their glister underneath layers of dust, which will cost £6,000 to remove.

The Coliseum, described as "the triumph of the century" when it opened as the largest theatre in London, is the Baroque masterpiece of Frank Matcham. Oswald Stoll commissioned and opened it as a variety theatre in 1904, but closed "the Playhouse of the World" two years later because of falling box office sales.

He was unable to sell and instead, Stoll brought in George Robey. Little Tich, Nellie Wallace, Harry Lauder, Vesta Tilley, W.C. Fields and even Sarah Bernhard; as crowd pullers. Later, Gracie Fields and Nocl Coward performed there, and several galas and royal variety performances were staged. The Coliseum became the home of the Sadier's Wells Opera, now ENO. in 1968.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, vice-chairman of the ENO, said: "Our duty now is to make it the best theatre we can for the largest opera audiences in the country."



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Halford

refused

access

to files

BY RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT ALISON Halford, one of the country's most senior police-women, failed yesterday in an

attempt to see police com-

plaints and disciplinary files

which she wanted to use in

The Court of Appeal ruled

that she was not entitled to see

the confidential documents

held by James Sharples, the

chief constable of Merseyside.

chief constable of Merseyside,

is bringing a sex discrimina-

tion case alleging that she

was barred from promotion

because she is a woman. She

alleged sexual discrimination

after applying in March

1990 for the post of deputy chief constable of Northamp-

tonshire and she claims she

has been refused promotion

nine times because of her sex.

As part of her case, which is being supported by the Equal

Opportunities Commission

and which is expected to be heard in May, Miss Halford wanted permission to see doc-uments, including police complaints and disciplinary

files, which she says are rele-

By a two to one majority, the appeal court yesterday supported Mr Sharples and the home secretary in their opposition to the files being

made available to Miss Halford and her advisers. Sir Stephen Brown, one of the judges, said: "I consider there

is an overriding public interest in maintaining the integ-

rity of the police complaints

and disciplinary files." He said that was not altered by

vant to her claim.

Miss Halford, an assistant

her sex discrimination case.

Couples delay family life to boost careers

Fertility rate soars among thirtysomething women

THE fertility rate of women in their late thirties has risen by 44 per cent in a decade as more couples delay marriage and put off having a family until their careers are well

The 1980s saw a surge in the number of births to women aged thirtysomething and if the current trend continues, the 1990s will see an even more dramatic increase in the number and proportion of births to women over 30, according to statistics published today in *Popula*tion Trends, the journal of the Office of Population Censuses

and Surveys. While the decade saw a rise of 8 per cent in all births, the number of births to women aged thirty and over rose by 30 per cent from 171,000 in 1980 to 218,000 ten years ater. In 1990, 30 per cent of all births were to women over thirty. Ten years earlier the proportion was 26 per cent. The study shows that whereas rises and falls in fertility rates

used to coincide in all age groups, there is now a big divergence between younger and older women.

The change is seen as large-ly the result of highly educat-ed women, whose husbands or partners are professional men on high salaries, delaying childbearing. "This trend has not resulted from a postponement of childbirth within marriage, but rather suggests that marriage has been delayed. Indeed, childbearing may act as the spur to marriage for some cohabiting couples." Clare Jones, author of the study, said. "However, a recent estimate indicates that at older ages the fertility rates of cohabiting women may have been slightly higher than those of married women. Thus, the extent to which the trend towards later age at marriage has influenced or been influenced by, shorter marriage durations before the first birth, and the

overall postponement of

For women aged 30 to 34, the fertility rate rose from 69 births per thousand women in 1981 to 76 in 1985 and to 87 in in 1990, an overall rise of 27 per cent. Over the same period the fertility rate of women in their late thirties increased from 22 in 1981 to

The fertility of women in their early forties has risen each year since 1982 at a slower rate from four births per thousand to five per thousand in 1990. The unprecedented aspect

of the trend is the difference between the fertility of younger women compared with older. Whereas rates for all age groups used to rise and fall together, those for women in their twenties have de-clined from 1980 to levels far lower than have been seen since the second world war. The fertility rate of women aged 20 to 24 fell 19 per cent to 92 births per thousand women in 1990. During the

same period, fertility of

women aged 25 to 29 dropped by 8 per cent. By 1990, the rate for women aged 20 to 24 was only slightly above that of women aged 30 to 34, marking a dramatic change since 1980 when it had been one third higher. "Due to the rise in the

number of women aged 20 to

29 the impact of the reduced fertility rates of the number of births has so far been dampened," the report said. "The number of births to women aged 20 to 24 decreased by 11 per cent between 1980 and 1990, while the number of births to women aged 25 to 29 actually increased by over 17 per cent as the 1960s baby boom generation reached these ages. Thus if the current trends in age-specific fertility rates persist, the 1990s will witness even more dramtic increases in the number and proportion of births to women in their thirties."

Population Trends 67 - Spring 1992 (Stationery Office, £7.25)



Happy family: the actress Patricia Hodge who joined the trend for later babies with her second child, a boy born earlier this year when she was aged 45

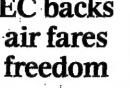
EC backs air fares

PASSENGERS on regular UK flights to Europe could pay far less from next year. Most EC member-states

are near to agreement on a formula allowing airlines to fix their own fares, Karel Van Miert, the EC transport commissioner, said in London yesterday. "The majority seem to be willing to go along with having the freedom to fix tariffs." The new fare system could start in January.

At present, European air fares are governed by the "double disapproval" princi-ple. It, for example, a British airline wants to introduce a new fare to France, it can be stopped if the British and French governments oppose it. Under the new scheme, airlines could fix any fare they want, although the EC would regulare the system to prevent airlines making predatory or domineering fare changes. Mr Van Miert was speak-

Mr Van Miert said that air delayed last year.



Miss Halford's membership of the Merseyside force. Lord Justice Ralph Gibson disagreed and said he did not consider that public interest meant that the files were immune from disclosure. Miss Halford, aged 51, has been suspended from

duty for more than a year pending disciplinary pro-ceedings which her lawyer has said were motivated by perceptions that she was a lesbian. She has been accused of discreditable conduct while on duty after allegations that she swam in her underwear at the home of a Birkenhead Last December, a High Court judge ruled that the manner of her suspension was unlawful. Before she

ing after attending a meeting of transport ministers from the 28-member states of the European Civil Aviation Conference in Westminster. He also said that airlines were likely to be allowed to land at and take-off from more that one city in another member state on the same scheduled service. Thus, Air France could fly to London, pick up passengers and fly on to Manchester.

Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, said at the meeting that passengers face at least another two years of airport delays in spite of improvements to the air traffic control system.

traffic delays in Europe cost £3.8 billion a year. More than 10,000 flights a month in the winter and more than 20,000 a month in the summer were



could return to work, Mersey-

Halford: says files are relevant to her claim

BBC goes for gold with Olympics

EXCLUSIVE live coverage of the Barcelona Olympics is the highlight of the BBC's £70 million spring and summer schedules launched yesterday.

The announcement follows a dispute over exclu-sive coverage of the cricket World Cup by BSkyB, which led to millions of viewers missing live transmission of the match prompted questions in the Commons.

Jonathan Powell, BBC1 controller, said: "Exclusive coverage of the Olympic Games gives a special focus to BBCi this summer. This is accompanied by a range of brand new quality dra-ma, plus fresh comedy, entertainment and factual

programmes. On election night, lead-ing comedians will focus on the life of John Major with the prime minister played by Adrian Edmondson and the Labour leader's wife. Glenys Kinnock, played by Dawn French.

Alan Yentob, controller of BBC2, said the season was "ambitious, imaginative, even a little subversive. When the polls close on election night both the Comic Strip and Have I Got News For You will offer some pungent topical en-

new comedies on both channels. Susan Hampshire and Tony Britton appear in Don't Tell Father by Roy Clarke, writer of Last of the Summer Wine,

The season includes nine new dramas and several

and Gareth Hunt and Louisa Rix star in Side by Side. The comedienne Marti Caine returns to television after her fight against cancer in a comedy show, Joker In The Pack, and Bruce Forsyth headlines in a variety show that will feature guests such as Dudley Moore and Larry Hagman. The comedian Harry En-

field returns to BBC2 for another series of his show and on Good Friday the Red Nose Day team looks at how the money raised is used in the Third World in Behind the Nose.

The first 36 hours of the Falklands conflict will be recreated on BBC2 in An Ungentlemanly Act, which is now being filmed to mark the 10th anniversary of the outbreak of the war. It stars lan Richardson as Sir Rex Hunt, the former governor of the Falklands. Terry Wogan will co-host The Health Show, with Jakki



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Police begin investigation into sinking of fishing boat described by engineer as 'the worst ship I have ever seen'

Families call for truth over trawler deaths

THE Pescado was a jinxed ship. Joseph O'Connor, an Irishman who was its former owner and then agent, had convictions for owning an unsafe vessel and for fraud.

Halfor

refuse

The 70ft trawler, built 36 years ago, first foundered on the Welsh coast ten years ago. was refloated and then sank in Fishguard harbour. It was bought by Mr O'Connor after being salvaged and added to his Plymouth-registered fleet, which included Spanishowned trawlers he had registered in Britain to exploit EC fishing rules. "I am a pioneer not a pirate," he said.

Ownership of the Pescado passed to Guideday, a Plymouth-based company, two years ago when Mr O'Connor went bankrupt, but he remained its agent and organ-ised its refit in Plymouth. How that refit was conducted and funded form part of a Devon and Cornwall police investigation. Ernie Hart-Greenwood, an experienced engineer who worked on the vessel, described it as "the worst ship I have ever seen". His fears were passed to the transport department.

Sean Deakin, who carried out sea trials, found it unstable and complained that the auto-pilot and short-wave radio failed to work and the ship's lights were invisible

from some angles.
Early last year, the Pescado began a series of fishing trips despite the lack of a safety certificate, a licence to fish or adequate insurance. None of the authorities on the quayside in Plymouth attempted to stop the trips, despite the Pescado's record and Mr O'Connor's background, which included a £7,500 fine for one of his companies for owning an unsafe vessel.

Six people died when the Pescado sank a year ago. Tony Dawe asks whether it should

ever have set sail Officials have since said that it is impossible to monitor the activities and status of every

vessel on a busy coast.

Mr O'Connor had recruited scratch crews for two-week scalloping trips that could earn them £2,000 a head Among the crew leaving Falmouth on February 25 last year was Adrian Flynn, aged 21, from Lincoln, who had never been to sea. His moth-er Eileen said: "He hadn't been working for six months and hated being idie. He was one of those who would go anywhere for a job."

Jo-Ann Thomas, aged 22, from Plymouth, signed up as cook alongside Neil Currie, her fiance from the Hebrides. who skippered the vessel although he did not hold a captain's licence. The most surprising recruit was Sean Kelly, aged 17, foster brother of Sean Deakin, who had refused to sail on the Pescado after its sea trials. Jo Deakin, his foster mother, said: "I wasn't happy about him

going, but just try telling a 17-year-old what to do." Three days after the ship left Falmouth, where it had stopped for repairs, a Looe trawlerman reported wreck-age that could have come from the Pescado. Nobody saw the ship after that or had ers reported it missing.

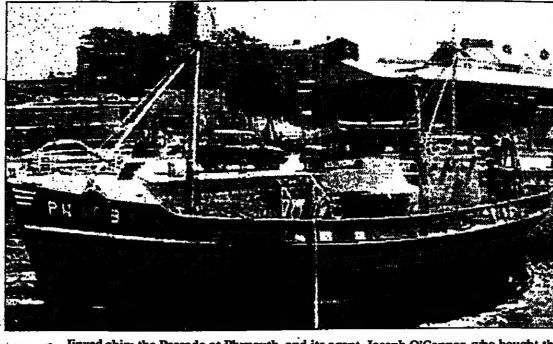
Miss Thomas's body and identifiable wreckage were then discovered and, in midMarch: the vessel was pin-pointed 240ft down, 13 miles off the Cornish coast. It had sunk in moderate weather, well clear of shipping lanes and without any reports of a collision. The cause of the tragedy remains a mystery, but only a routine enquiry has heen carried out by the transport department's marine ac-

It took three months to send a remote-control camera. to film the wreck, and until today for the relatives to be shown the film in full. Charles Hantersley, a marine lawyer representing relatives, said: "It is significant that none of the crew nor the ship were in-sured. I am convinced that, if there had been a heavy insurance claim, things would have worked out differently."

Alan Ayres, Guideday managing director, who arranged independent filming of the wreck has insisted that his video indicates the Pescado was hit by a submarine. The defence ministry has denied that any submarines were operating in the

area at the time.

Last summer documents relating to the Pescado were



Jinxed ship: the Pescado at Plymouth, and its agent, Joseph O'Connor, who bought the trawler after it had sunk twice

found by detectives from the Metropolitan police fraud squad investigating other aspects of Mr O'Connor's busi-

in London last November, he was jailed for two years for a £360,000 fraud involving the phoney purchase of a ship in the Gulf. Papers were passed to Devon and Com-wall police, who have now launched a criminal investigation.

Relatives who welcomed an enquiry were dismayed by this month's summary report from the transport depart-

HEATHROW

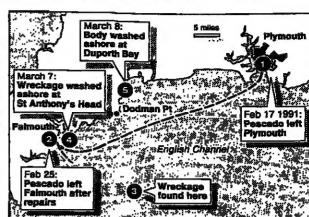
ment's marine accident inves-tigation branch drawing the "tentative conclusion" the Pescado's starboard fish-. ing gear had snagged on a seabed obstruction and

Rita Capon, Miss Thomas's mother, described the report as "rubbish" and, with other relatives, claimed that the vessel could have heeled without capsizing to a far greater extent than the investigators have allowed.

The relatives have also learnt that the deck was damaged and believe that was caused by a collision with another vessel. Mrs Capon and Mrs Deakin will present their conclusions in the Free for All programme on Channel 4 tomorrow. "We have been waiting a year to find out how the crew died and all we have

got is three and a half pages of theory from the investiga-tion branch," Mrs Deakin

"We have asked for a public enquiry and for the ship to be raised but got nothing, so we are going to try to find out for





Alternative view: Jo Deakin, left, and Rita Capon, editing their film investigating the case

Damages payout is frozen

The High Court yesterday froze all but £40,000 of the £240,000 libel damages awarded on Monday to the Russian émigré Vladimir Telnikoff over a letter to a newspaper which branded an article he had written as racist and anti-Semitic.

The bulk of the award will remain frozen by order of Mr Justice Boreham pending the outcome of an appeal by the author of the letter. Vladimir

Manusevitch.
Mr Telnikoff, aged 55, of
Highgate, north London,
claimed that Mr Manusevitch's letter to The Daily Telegraph in February 1984 devastated" his life.

Case referred

Evidence to an inquest on the death of Oliver Pryce, aged 30, of Wolverhampton, who died in police custody after being arrested in Middlesbrough, is to be referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions after the jury returned a verdict of unlawful killing.

Mast ahoy

A new 83ft mast for the Cutty Sark clipper in Greenwich has begun its journey by boat and lorry from Cowes in the Isle of Wight.

Worst verse

Joan Wallace, aged 49, of Nottingham, has won a place in the finals of a contest to find the world's worst poet, to be held in Paris in the

Sale of note

summer.

A guitar owned by the flamenco guitarist Paco Peña was sold for £11,000 at Bonhams in Knightsbridge.

Low home

By RACHEL KELLY PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

the buyer values the property for mortgage purposes at a lower level than the agreed price, the agents say. The seller is naturally unwilling

ional Association of Estate Agents, said. "I'd say it is happening in up to 50 per cent of such deals."

Buyers are also unwilling to pay more than a lender's valuation. If they do, lenders require them to pay for mort-

of the banks or building societies, who make their money from lending and want to lend, but rather one must look at the surveyors doing the valuations," Mr Ware said. "Between 1986 and 1988, surveyors had a good time and didn't have to be very professional."

Now surveyors have to be extra cautious in case property values come down even more, he said.

valuations hit sales

LOW mortgage valuations by lenders are holding back a recovery in the housing mar-

ket, according to estate agents.
Sales are collapsing after buyer and seller have agreed on a price, because the bank or building society lending to

to let the house go at the lower price. "This is particularly hap-pening at the bottom end of the property market among first time buyers," David Ware, president of the Nat-

Often the offer accepted is already well below the asking price, so a cut by a surveyor acting for the lender is a double blow to the seller who may well withdraw from the

With the launch of Heathrow-Brussels on gage indemnity to cover the difference in price. March 29th, British Midland adds yet another "I don't think it's the fault route to its existing European services to Paris, Amsterdam, Dublin, Nice, Palma and Malaga.

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EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVE

Public still believes Major to be the best prime minister

BY ROBIN OAKLEY POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major retains a strong lead over Neil Kinnock in the public's estimation of his prime ministerial capabilities, despite Labour's fivepoint lead in the latest opinion polls.

When people were asked who would make the most capable prime minister 42 per cent chose Mr Major, 28 per cent Neil Kinnock and 20 per cent Paddy Ashdown. The Conservatives retain a clear lead over Labour on leadership, but Labour is seen as having the best policies for

When people were asked which party had the best team of leaders, 40 per cent named the Tories, 30 per cent Labour and 9 per cent the Liberal Democrats. When respondents were asked which party was the most clear and united about what its policies should be, 36 per cent named the Conservatives, 29 per cent the Labour party and 14 per cent the Liberal Democrats.

But when they were asked which party had the best policies for the country as a whole 34 per cent named Labour, 32 per cent the Conservatives and 12 per cent the Liberal

The Conservatives are seen as having the best policies on defence, law and order as well as in the key areas of taxation and managing the economy, the real battleground of this election. They lead 49-21 on defence, 40-24 on law and order, 39-33 on taxation and 36-30 on managing the economy. But Labour leads 51-24 as having the best policies for health care. Mr Kinnock and his party also lead on educa-tion (42-26), on unemployment (46-20) and on repl-

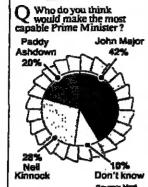
SEMON PORT : S

acing the poli tax (41-24). When people were asked what were the two or three issues that would be most important to them in helping them decide who they voted for, the leading concerns were health care (44 per cent), unemployment (29 per cent), and education (29). This argues that the Conservatives we so far failed to lift to the top of the agenda the issues which they hope will deter-mine the election outcome. taxation and the economy. Taxation has risen since the last Times/Mori only from 10 per cent to 13 per cent and

from 11 per cent to 15 per Early indications on John Smith's shadow budget are unfavourable for Labour. Although polling took place on Monday, some of it before Mr Smith delivered his shadow budget, it was well known from the Commons budget debate that Labour intended to scrap the 20p tax band on the first £2,000 of taxable income introduced by Nor-

managing the economy only

CAPABLE PRIME MINISTER ?



man Lamont. When people were asked if Labour should or should not put the new 20p income tax band back up to 25p nearly six in ten (57 per cent) said they should not. Just under a third (31 per cent) said they should. But people clearly do not care too deeply either way. When respondents were asked if Labour's pledge to put back up the income tax band would affect their voting intention, nine out of ten (89 per cent) said that it would make no difference.

Of those few intending to switch their support as a result, 31 per cent said they would move to the Conservatives and 20 per cent said they would go to the Liberal Democrats, with 12 per cent switching to Labour in

The latest Mori poil confirms the potential support for Paddy Ashdown and his party indicated in the previous Times/Mori poll a week ago. When people were asked how they would vote if they thought the Liberal Democrats were likely to win in their constituency, 35 per cent said they would support the Liberal Democrats, 32 per cent Labour and 29 per cent Conservative.

Labour's strongest card, the "time for a new act" argument, still has a potent pull with the electorate. When people were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the statement "It's time for a change", 69 per cent agreed and only 26 per cent

disagreed.

Mori interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,099 adults aged 18-plus in 54 constituencies, face to face in the street on March 16.

Red roses bloom in battle of **bulletins**

BY OUR POLITICAL EDITOR

IF CAMPAIGN success is asured in column inches and by keeping your subject top of the television news bulletins, Labour has had the best of things, so far.

Labour opened on Friday with what Neil Kinnock does best, a full-blooded rallying ch to the Scottish party faithful. His castigation of the "selfishness and sourness" of the Tory years and his rhetoric about a Britain free of the fear of falling ill, free of the fear of walking a dark street at night, free of the fear of being old and lonely . . . " secured the Saturday morning headlines.

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The Tories chose to open a day later with John Major's speech to an edgy Conserva-tive Central Council in Torquay, hoping for equal dom-ination of Sunday's head-lines. Ministers now acknowledge a tactical mistake: the speech was always likely to be swamped, as it proved to be, by the deluge of opin-ion polls on the first weekend after the election was called.

Labour's campaign exper-ience showed. The youthful Conservative Central Office team, which has given new snap to Tory campaigning, may be a little too televisionoriented. They had set great store by the question and answer "people's confer-ences" in which the prime minister is meeting voters in a more intimate atmosphere. However, the first of these, on Sunday, after The Times had blown the secret on Saturday, proved not to be the sensation that they had

As one of the Kinnock team put it yesterday: "In a close election, it is dominating the news which matters." Again, on Sunday, the news story proved to be the preview of John Smith's "shadow budget, unveiled the next day to ensure Labour's domination of the headlines or the fourth day running. The Major talk-ins, suffering from the fatal flaw of invited audiences, were a sketch-writer's curio and a good



picture, not the stuff of which

real news is made. Labour may, none the less, have played into Tory hands. A basic rule in campaigning is to lift high in the agenda the subjects on which you do well. For Labour, that means health, education and public services. Instead of playing to those strengths, Labour has gambled. Rattled by Tory tax campaigns in Jamuary, which wiped out an earlier Labour poll lead, Mr Kinnock and his colleagues decided to risk tackling the tax issue head on, putting up the reassuring John Smith with all the budget panoply that they could muster.

They gambled that they would fetch in votes where they needed them by taking 750,000 people out of tax

with raised allowances in contrast to the Tory budget 20p tax band that helped four million lower earners but gave them rather less. The most vulnerable point

in Labour's tax armoury was protected: they dropped plans for a tax on savings income exceeding £3,000 a year. However, after agitated debate in Labour's senior ranks, they decided not to water down or phase in the national insurance changes that would hit everyone earning more than £21,000 a year. Tory-supporting tab-loids had a field day with stories about the potentital destruction of middle-class living standards.

The Conservatives, who had taken a tactical decision. not to bring out their manifesto, as they could have done, on the day of Mr Smith's shadow budget, were convinced that they had taken the right decision. They believe that Labour has planted thoughts that will count against them as voters finger their wallets on the way to the polling booths. The Tory camp was happy to leave Labour with headlines such as the Daily Mail's "If you make it, they'll take it". Spare a thought for the Liberal Democrats, who al-

ways have to struggle to get their noses in. They had fixed Monday for their man-ifesto launch. When relegat-ed to the "other events today" item in many bulletins, after lengthy analysis of Mr Smith's offering, they surely regretted their timing.

never time for Scotland' This is a now or never time for Scotland — time to stand up

'A now or

and be counted. Sean Connery, actor and member of the SNP

They're proven, they're practical, they're radical. They're the best future for Britain's schools.

Kenneth Clarke on Conservative education proposals

Every other party has suc-cumbed to 'leaderism' rather than relying on values and

Michael Meadowcroft, former Liberal MP, who will stand for

They are making proposals now to make changes to which they would never never subject their own children. Neil Kinnock, on Conservation A repeated B-movie with no

thrills or surprises. Doug McAvoy, general-secretary of the National Union of Teachers, on the Conservative manifesto for education

Everyone knows cosmetic changes simply do not do the trick. It is like putting lipstick on a pit-bull terrior. What is underneath is still pretty ugly. And pretty vicious. Peter Lilley, trade and industry secretary, on Labour's trade union policy

London is becoming a significant asset for the Liberal Democrats while it remains a potential drag factor for

Labour Paddy Ashdown in London I'm not sorry that I shall never be seeing some of it again. A great deal of it is deceit and hypocrisy.

Sir Charies Irving, retiring Tory MP for Cheltenham, on the House of Commons The classic ingredients for

recovery are in place. Chancellor Norman Lamo the BBC's World at One The figures are disappointing, but I don't think its right to say that there are no signs

of an end to the recession. Chancellor Norman Lamont on Channel Four news The impediment that lies between us and people beginning to reinvest and lift out of recession is the general elec-

tion result.

John Major in Lincolnshire I was unemployed and I remember vividly what it was like to spend your mornings looking for a job often vainly and your afternoons wonder-ing what would happen the next day.

John Major in the Conservative party political broadcast to be shown tonight



It is no good a Chancellor

My dad likes you best, better

be an avalanche of applications for grant-maintained Tim Eggar, education minister

One poll victory does not make Kinnock's summer

By Ivor Crewe

HAS Labour made the decisive break? Labour's 5 per cent lead in the Times/Mori poll is its largest in any poll since early January. If repeated on election day it would give the party a small but secure overall majority of 19 seats on the assumption of a uniform swing and of 11 seats if local factors help the minor parties. Mr Kinnock would reach Downing Street without the help of the smaller parties and would probably

stay there for five years. But the results of a single poll must be treated cautiously. There are four reasons for Walworth road to keep the champagne bottles firmly

First, the 5 per cent lead can easily be explained by sampling error. The average of the last eight polls suggests that party support since the Budget has been running at Conservative 39.3, Labour 40.3, Liberal Democrat 15.8. The Mori poll is within the standard 3 per cent margin of error for each of the parties. It may be significant that com-pared with last week's Mori poll for The Times Labour support has risen at the expense of "Others" while Conservative and Lib-Dem

support has stayed the same. Secondly, Mori repeated many of the questions it asked in its previous poll for The Times last week. The replies are almost invariably within a percentage point or two of last week's, which suggests that public opinion has barely changed. The only shifts of opinion of even marginal significance are increases in the

proportion who say that the most important issues affecting their vote are the management of the economy (up from 11 to 15 per cent) and taxes (up from 10 to 13 per Both are issues on which the Conservatives have a small but stable lead over Labour as the best party.

Thirdly, no event has taken place that could plausibly explain a sharp surge in Labour support. The interviewing for the Mori poll was conducted on Monday before most respondents could have learned about Labour's "shadow budget" or the Liberal Demo-crats' manifesto. A Harris poll for the Daily Express did half its interviewing on the loth and reported a 3 per cent Tory lead. At least one of the polls is inaccurate, but

there is no telling which. It does not appear that Labour's most publicised pledge since the budget (and before Mori did its interviewing) - to restore the 20p income tax band to 25p could be repsonsible for its 5 per cent lead. Mori found that voters divided 47 to 31 per cent against abolition of

the 20p tax band.

the sharp rise in voters' economic optimism that Mori records since last month. Mori asked voters about "the neral economic situation in the country over the next 12 months". Compared with February the proportion expecting it to improve rose from 30 to 36 per cent and the proportion expecting it to get worse declined from 32 to 21 per cent

Labour lead sits oddly with

The "index of optimism" optimists minus pessimists — has shifted dramatically from -2 in February (and from -17 in December) to +15 now. This latest figure is almost identical to that for April 1987, shortly before the last general election, when the Conservatives won comfort-ably (see table). Voting studies have repeatedly found that economic optimism is one of the most powerful predictors

of support for the government.
At least two more polls showing an increased and similar Labour lead are needed before the City sells utility stocks and the Kinnocks think about new curtains. Ivor Crewe is professor of

government at Essex University.

Do you think that the general economic condition of the country w improve, stay the same or get worse over the next 12 months?					
	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	(April
	1991	1992	1992	1992	1987)
Improve	24	31	30	38	(35)
Stay same	31	32	31	32	(32)
Get worse	41	32	32	21	(21)
index of optimism	-17	-1	-2	+15	+14

Swept away by a fuzzy blue avalanche

Deep in the heart of their Smith Square headquar-ters, the Torics have built a bunker out of leftover pieces of blue fuzzy-felt. The fuzzyfelt was part of a bulk order ence, which featured a monster fuzzy-felt podium and a 100-yard fuzzy-felt wavy wall. The bunker is for campaign press conferences. Tuesday was John Major's first.

Stage, table and backdrop were all in the blue felt. The carpet being blue through-out, the chairs blue as well and the ceiling completely covered in blue fabric, the overall effect for journalists was of being trapped in an

From one end of the cave. Mr Major read a long prepared statement about edu-cation policy, with dramatic moments such as: "And I'm also very pleased we now have a pay review body" (very pleased?), and Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, took us through just a few of the "39 steps to higher standards" he proposes.

It was 8.30am. To get in, I

had been obliged to submit my bicycle crash-helmet for X-ray. There was no free coffee. If you can imagine sit-ting in a fuzzy-felt ice-cave with an X-rayed crash helmet at your feet and no coffee, being lectured by Kenneth Clarke on his 39 steps to



higher standards, then you will share my sense of fantasy. The best we can say is that Mr Major took questions with pleasant informality, and poise: the worst, that it was dull.

The avalanche was the bright spot. This was the "av-alanche of applications for grant-maintained status" which would sweep down. Mr Clarke predicted, once the Tories had won the

Mr Major, whose prose tends to caution where Mr Clarke's tends to swagger, looked a little flustered at the prospect of an avalanche. Asked by a journalist how the phenomenon would be faced, he hesitated.

"The avalanche will come over a period." "A flood," Mr Clarke added, helpfully. We considered the concept of by staged flooding

Minds moved to the next event: a press preview of the latest party political broad-cast: The Journey — a Film of John Major, directed by John Schlesinger. You can watch this tonight.



"It won't be a re-run of Chariots of Fire," Chris Patten, the party chairman, said, trying to eat a bun gracefully in front of six whirring television cameras. "Can I go to the loo first? In fact, the film was an

answer to Hugh Hudson's Kinnock - the Movie and, though different, effective. Mr Major emerges as a less grey, more interesting man. It gives him depth.

After an establishing shot Aof Mr Major in a car, the hero buys a pound of tomat-oes: "Can I have a pound of those tomatoes? Nice to see you." This is to prove that peas are not his only vegeta-ble. He then toys with the idea of buying a pound of kippers. Mr Major is return-ing to his roots.

"Can we turn left into At-

lantic Road?" We are shown his first house. Later we see his second house ... "Is it still there? It is. It is! It's still there. It's hardly

changed." So the prime minister had not checked up on this before arriving with full camera crew! We giggled. But, in my experience, the things that don't work on television (this bit doesn't) are the things which were not contrived. The impromptu seat, John in glasses, to Brixton, John in glasses, to

Huntingdon (nice sweater, and glasses), and back What does he look like without glasses? Does Norma know? There are some dollops of political wisdom, too long but also this interesting if oblique, remark: "People are entitled to their own views, their own instincts their own instincts ... it's quite wrong to try to pigeon-

hole everybody . . .
"People are individuals, they have their own instincts, they have their own feelings. As a matter of privacy, I think that is predominantly for them." Though open to correction, I take this to embrace a coded plea for sexual toleration. Reviewing such a text, Margaret Thatcher would have sidelined the passage with the query: "What is this supposed to mean?", and struck it out.

Then we see Mr Major shaking hands with Nelson Mandela with a fishmonger, and with President Bush. There is a burst of Purcell. We enter the doors of Num-ber 10. Mercifully, the prime minister has put down his



talking about tax handouts if the enterprise culture dies. David Mellor, Treasury chief secretary

than John Major. Gary, aged seven, Kinnock After the election, there will

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MP happy to leave 'deceit' behind

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

ALL those hopeful candidates wearing out their shoe leather on the election trail to Westminster may ponder today the sobering words of one retiring MP. The House of Commons is dismissed as a forum of "absolute deceit and hypocrisy" by Sir Charles Irving.

"I'm not sorry that I shall never be seeing some of it again," Sir Charles said after his fourth term as Conservative MP for Cheltenham. When I was elected in 1974, I rated the House of Commons a very civilised place in its behaviour. I think behaviour has deteriorated a lot

Sir Charles, aged 68, never achieved ministerial office. A

former hotelier, his highest profile was as chairman of the Commons

He said that his worst per iod as an MP was in 1974. "We practically had a hung Parliament and thank God I shall never be part of one again," he said. "In those days, we were dragged into the House from our hospital beds to vote because the balance was so close."

The Tory candidate to succeed Sir Charles is John Taylor, a black barrister whose selection caused a dispute in the local party. The Liberal Democrat candidate is Nigel Jones, and Labour's is Pam

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Battle over economy sharpens

Ministers line up to attack Labour's 'vindictive' budget

BY ROBIN OAKLEY AND NICHOLAS WOOD

THE battle over the economy sharpened yesterday as Neil Kinnock accused the Conservatives of being a "do nothing government" in the face of the recession. John Major and Paddy Ashdown both criticised Labour's shadow budget, with Mr Major saying that it was vindictive.

As new official statistics confirmed Britain's falling production, Gordon Brown, the shadow industry minister. predicted a further 500,000 increase in unemployment this year unless policies were changed. Britain, he said. was losing a job every 12 seconds of the working day. with a business going under every three minutes.

Mr Kinnock said that Tory policies had put the economy into reverse. The Tory party that brought the recession still has no positive plans to pull Britain out of it," he said. "In the face of a collapse in investment, skill shortages, rising unemployment, record pusiness failures and rock-bottom confidence, they do nothing. They have not a single useful initiative to offer the economy in recession."

Mr Major called John Smith's shadow budget 'vin-dictive and self-defeating'. saying that it would create a brain drain. Middle income earners, he said, would face an unprecedented tax seizure under the proposals.

Other ministers sought to pick holes in Labour's tax and spending programme, argu-ing that the "phoney budget" was looking more threadbare by the minute. They targeted the £8 billion of privatisation proceeds that Labour included in its calculations when it was opposed to selling off state assets. They also accused the Opposition of breaking a pledge not to take money from 4.5 million private pension holders, who have taken out plans under

new laws since 1988. Chris Panen, Tory party chairman, said that Labour's supposed commitment to the government's borrowing tar-

appear to say they oppose privatisation, yet they appear to ignore £8 billion of privatisation receipts for 1992-3. Would they cut spending by E8 billion or increase taxes by

Mr Major told a London press conference that the shadow chancellor's budget would hold back economic recovery and deter young people from entering the pro-fessions. Those hit would not be the "silk top-hatted rich" of Labour demonology but headteachers and their deputies, senior nurses, police sergeants and family doctors.

Mr Smith had "scrapped a low tax band and introduced a high tax band", replacing incentives with penalties for success, he said. "He introduced the largest ever in-crease for the middle class on middle incomes - not rich people but people on relativey modest incomes — that we have ever seen in this country." Labour's plan to scrap the £21,000 ceiling on nat-ional insurance contributions would cost primary school headteachers £560 a year, secondary school heads £1,550, hospital registrars

"Quite apart from these figures, what sort of opportunity and incentive does that give the young people who seek to improve their position and these professions in the future? What sort of signal does it give them as to whether they are best to ply their trade and offer their skills to this country or to take their

£517 and GPs £1,700.

Mr Major also attacked Labour's plan to scrap the 2. per cent rebate for 4.5 million private pension holders who have opted out of Serps. Their average income was only 19,700 a year.

Tony Newton, the social security secretary, said that Mr Smith had failed to clear his "raid" on pension holders with Michael Meacher, the

tary, who had promised that there would be no losers. Mr Major added: The essential point of the classless society is that it provides a proper ladder for people to move up, with incentives, opportunity and choice. Mr Smith has at the end of the ladder not an incentive, but a penalty."

At his morning press conference in London, Mr Kinnock would not be drawn on how quickly unemploy-ment would fall under a Labour government, saying: There is no switch that can be thrown to bring the economy from long recession into immediate recovery." Mr Smith also refused to put a time scale on how soon Labour's proosals would dent

the jobless figures.
Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, interviewed on the BBC's The World at One, said that the latest manufacturing output figures, published yesterday, were disappointing. "We always knew this period between January and the end of last year was a difficult period for business, but there are more encouraging signs since then, more up to date. It is true the classic ingredients for recovery are in place.

We have consumer figures for spending that are really quite good. They have been showing a gradual and modest increase. I have always said that consumer spending is vital to the upturn. Con-sumer spending will be absolutely clobbered under Labour party taxation

Asked if the economy had reached the bottom, he said: 'We will not know precisely when the bottom was reached until we have the GDP figures we have not yet got, Asked if recovery had started, he said: "I would not accept that the only thing to look at is manufacturing. You have to look at the total economy."

Diary, page 14 Leading article



Investment aim: Marjorie Mowlam, Labour's City spokesman, who says her party can tackle the recession

Business help promised

A LABOUR government would immediately set up a small-firms investment scheme for manufacturing and give small firms assistance in becoming exporters, Gordon Brown, Labour's industry spokesman, said yes-terday. Firms would be given grants of up to 25 per cent of the cost of investment in production technologies, includ-

ing information technology. The scheme, limited to £40 million, would run initially for six months.

Mr Brown also told a London press conference that in the first year of a Labour gov-ernment, regional develop-ment agencies would be created in England and those in Scotland and Wales would be strengthened. Labour Leading article would begin "a new pro-and letters, page 15 gramme for clearing industri-

reverse the fall in manufacturing industry since 1979. The small business plan al dereliction and preparing was part of Labour efforts yes-

new industrial sites to encourage new inward investment to our regions". Banks and fi-nancial institutions would be "invited" to work with development agencies to boost long-term industrial investment in the regions. Mr Brown said that, with

the 1992 single European market in mind, Labour would offer special export advice to small and medium-size firms by creating regional ex-

port services.

Promising to reinvigorate a "do-nothing department of trade" Mr Brown said that Labour's proposals for new fiscal incentives and grants would begin a new invest-

terday to counter the cool response from business to John Smith's shadow budget. City analysts have expressed doubt about Labour's investment proposals, agreeing that companies might bring forward investment but suggesting that costs to the Exchequer would outweigh any benefits. The Institute of Directors said that the manufacturing investment initiative might only suck in imports. Labour's tax package was dis-missed by City analysts as likely to deter inward

Neil Kinnock told the press conference that Labour's budget was "responsibly re-

than the Tory Budget to being undermined by a sig-nificant rise in imports. He said: "Because of the way we have directed a great deal of our budget reallocation to pensioners, families with children and those on belowaverage incomes, the likelihood is that they will be spending on necessities." These were less import-prone.

Marjorie Mowlam, Labour's City spokesman, said that Ernst & Young, the accountantcy firm, had put Labour's budget through the Treasury computer model and found that, although investment next year would be 3.5 per cent under the Conservatives, it would be 5.1 per cent with Labour's package. "It is this which will make the difference in pulling us out of recession," she said.

Beith challenge to Labour

Alan Beith, the Liberal Dem ocrat Treasury spokesman, challenged the Labour leadership yesterday to spell out its plans for the estimated £11 billion of privatisation re-ceipts, mainly from the sale of some of the remaining shares in British Telecom and British Gas (Sheila Gunn writes).

He cited the failure of John Smith, the shadow chancellor, to disclose his plans for the existing programme of share sales and further privatisation as an example of the Labour's budget.

"The largest hole in Labour's arithmetic is their failure to say how they will make up for the £11 billion of privatisation receipts the gov ernment will receive." Mr Beith said. "Liberal Democrats are prepared to sell the government's remaining shares in the privatised utili-ties, but Labour's policy re-quires them to keep those shares."

Families will gain' in budget

Labour's shadow overseas development minister, Ann Clwyd, said that independent analysis showed 82 per cent of Welsh families would gain from John Smith's alternative budget — and only 5 per cent would lose out. She highlighted the plight of low income families in her

Cynon Valley constituency which official statistics say is one of Britain's most deprived

"More than 60 per cent of households in the valley are having to manage on £4,000 a year or less. That is real poverty in UK terms and the effect of unemployment and the rundown in services like health has been devastating."

Revolution' in training

A training revolution is taking place, claims Michael Howard, the employment secretary. He said in Birmingham that government spending on training had increased by two and a half times the rate of infla-tion, employers investment in training was also at a record high, and the new national network of training and enterprise councils was ensuring that training was

Tax changes would take middle road

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JILL SHERMAN

PADDY Ashdown yesterday ioined the attack on Labour's

budget propesals by dismissing them as a "timid mouse" that would do nothing to end "Under Labour, the reces-

sion would continue, vital investments would be ignored, and many people would still have to pay swingeing tax rates that depress enterprise," the Liberal Democrat leader However, the centre party

is also planning a big in-crease in taxes on the better off. It wants a top tax and National Insurance rate of 50 per cent on earnings above 550,000. The figure is between the 40 per cent income tax levied by the Conservatives and the effective 59 per

LIBERAL MEW

cent proposed by Labour. The higher tax take from the better off will be used to pay for a increased benefits for pensioners, families with children and those caring for sick or disabled relatives. The long-term aim is to

merge the tax and benefits system and to create an income floor worth at least £12.80 a week for all, whether they are in work or not. The money would be paid to mothers who stayed at home to look after their children. The centre party would also encourage employers to give working mothers tax-free child care vouchers. The Liberal Democrats intend to scrap the £21,000 earnings limit on National per cent income tax and 9 per Insurance contributions (Nics) of 9 per cent and merge Nics with income tax to pro-

duce a unified tax "collected and administered together savers will not pay the 9 per and paid on the same income, whether from earnings, investments, capital gains or To raise extra money for education, the basic rate of income tax would be raised to 26 per cent, making a com-bined rate of 35 per cent for most people. The manifesto

estimates that 80 per cent of taxpayers would be on that The better off face sharply increased taxes. On earnings above £33,000 the combined rate would be 42 per cent (33

cent Nics). The top rate of 50 per cent (41 per cent plus 9 per cent) would cut in above £50,000 a year. "Pensioners and ordinary

cent NI element on their incomes. Special provisions will also ensure that those on modest incomes most of which comes from investments, such as people who have been made redundant, do not pay the 9 per cent on their savings," the manifesto

The gross cost of the benefit proposals would be £4.3 bilion in the first year, rising to £5.9 billion in the second year, but all of that would be offset by savings from tax reforms.

MEDIAWATCH by Brian MacArthur

Smith scores a hit on the press

Suddenly the whole tenor of the election campaign has changed. Until Monday, thanks to the lavish expense accounts provided by their long-suffering proprietors for "entertaining contacts". Fleet Street journalists had been used to living as if they were rich a company car, the odd lunch at the Savoy, an annual free holiday in the Bahamas from the travel editor - on what they have always considered rather meagre salaries.

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There is never a time in caring, when no more can be given, no more can be learned, no more can be said. Thank you for listening, and for sharing so often the joy of your giving with the gravely ill patients

Sister Superior.

That was why a collective shudder rippled through the journalists assembled to hear John Smith deliver his budget on Monday when he announced proudly that everybody earning under £22,000 a year would be better off. It didn't take long for the implication to sink in on the political backs. Anybody earning more than £22,000 was therefore going to be worse off - and Fleet Street journalists (who command average salaries of well over £30,000) are not only going to be seriously worse off but many will also get caught by Mr Smith's

earnings over £36,375. Only half-jokingly one of John Smith's aides had suggested that when journalists stood up to ask questions about the Smith budget they should not only state their name and paper but also their salary. That wasn't necessary. All any reader of The Daily Telegraph had to do yesterday to get the message was to note the inverted commas in its main front page headline: Labour seeks to raise tax on "better off". People like us? "Bener off"? You must be joking. "This is an

attack on engineers, doc-

proposed 50p tax band on

tors, middle managers and small businessmen, not just pop stars and dukes". sniffed the Telegraph leader writer without mentioning the fate of its own well paid journalists.

The same point was put with stark clarity and what almost looked like sorrow in The Independent, whose founders have risen from the ranks to become millionaires thanks to the Thatcher years. Labour "says that it is fair

for the rich to pay more for better pensions and child benefit", it said. "But how many people on £30,000 (1.75 times average earnings) with a family and big mortgage think of themselves as rich?" If Labour failed to oust this "unpopular" government, The Independent added, it would largely be because Mr Smith refused to think again about imposing taxes of "unprecedented severity" on middle-class incomes.

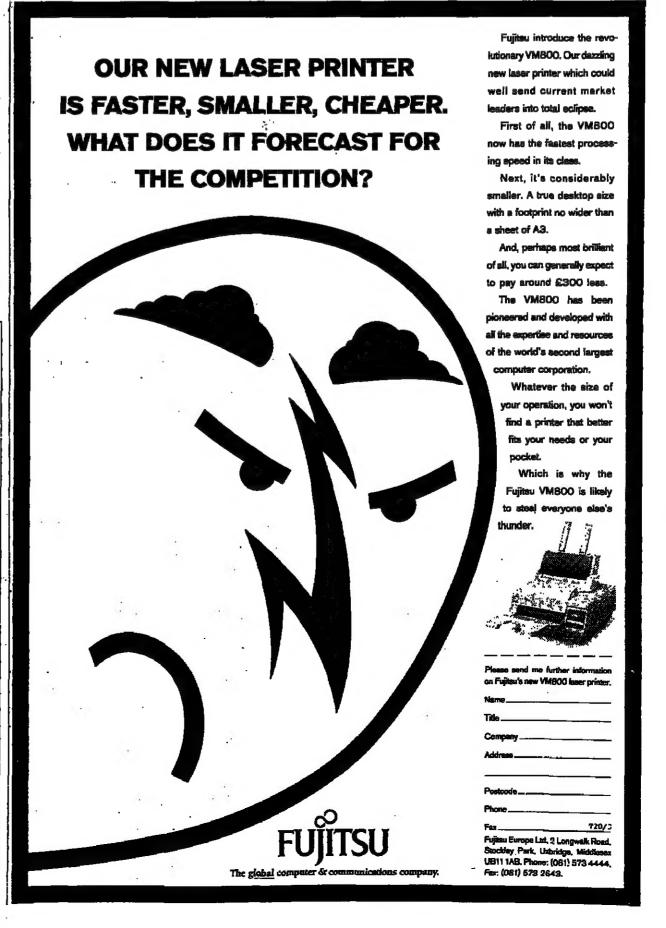
t the last election, The A Independent maintained its independence by refusing to endorse any party and it has so far given no chie - except for that word "unpopular" - to its inten-

saying that Monday was the day Labour lost the election. Another paper still to declare its position is The Guardian whose choice will

be between Labour and the Liberal Democrats. If that decision is hovering on an endorsement for Labour, The Guardian was as worried as The Independent. Most of the pain of the mortgage-stricken middle classes would be real. The Guardian argued. There was a "desperately finite" limit to the number of those Labour could afford to alienate. Chancellor Smith did rather well - but the would-be Chancellor Smith had some nail-biting yet to.

Only The Times, so far as could detect, made the important point that in most of the country outside London a pay packet of £22,000 a year was high. "The £40.000-a-year threshold for Mr Smith's top band of 59 per cent taxplus-national-insurance is more than the average headmaster or country solicitor earns."

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Silence over foreign policy hides a strong Tory hand in the campaign



MY MA

Hurd: one of strongest cards in Tories' pack

Douglas Hurd may have a frus-trating election. He is one of the Tories' strongest cards, but he may not have the chance to show all his strengths.

Foreign policy is unlikely to be a central issue of the campaign. There could, of course, be a surprise crisis that might favour the Tories — although military action over Iraq is not expected in the next three weeks and the next moves against Libya over the Lockerbie bombing are likely to involve a United Nations resolution catting off air traffic. Presi-dent Bush is unlikely to time any air strikes to suit the British, rath-

er than the American, election. Mr Hurd is not a natural headline-grabber. His style appeals more to the thinking than the drinking classes — one reason why he trailed in the Tory leadership election in November 1990. Last Friday, at the Conservative central council in Torquay, he jokingly wondered whether he was the slow movement, or perhaps the meat in the sandwich, when his speech was put between Michael Hes-eltine's and Jeffrey Archer's. His

RIDDELL ON THE ELECTION

campaign role will be as the voice of reasoned debate, slightly above the party fray, in contrast to the barnstorming Mr Heseltine. To his amusement, Mr Hurd has been told by John Major that he "should not get into the gutter" an unlikely prospect. . Although voters may soon be fed

up with arguments about tax and the economy, they are unlikely to get much chance of tiring of de-bates about foreign policy. Only one joint television discussion has been arranged and Labour is not planning any news conferences on the issue. That makes sense for Labour and is frustrating for the Tories. Recent Mori polls show that barely I or 2 per cent of voters cite foreign policy or Europe as among the two or three most important issues. The Tories have enjoyed a large advantage as the best party to handle these issues, and Mr Hurd is strongly preferred

These personal qualities matter since the choice over foreign policy is as much one of people as of policies. This is, in part, because the broad approaches of the two parties have converged following Labour's switch to embrace the European Community and to accept the retention of a nuclear deterrent. Even on Europe, the contrasts can be exaggerated. Both parties have made enlargement of the Community a priority. The Tories have turned their rejection of the social charter into a grand symbol of their opposition to Jacques Delors' federalism, and of Labour's willingness to accept them, but the differences are mainly limited to mandatory new requirements on business.

Labour's five-point plan for the EC from July would undoubtedly move EC policy more in an interventionist direction, on the social charter, a new Community strategy for growth and an environmeninitiative, than the Tories' would. But it does not represent an irrevocable step towards political

union. On economic and monetary union, the two parties are nearer than they like to pretend. For the sake of party unity, the Tories say that they will not decide until the late 1990s whether to join a single currency, while Labour's commitment in principle to participating is qualified by its insistence that Parliament will have the final say. At the time the decision will depend on whether the convergence conditions have been achieved.

Asked about differences other than Europe, a senior Labour official merely listed higher priorities for human rights, for disarmament talks among the eight main nuclear powers, greater democracy in Hong Kong and environ-mental protection in Antarctica.

In practice, what often matters more is the response to unforeseen crises and handling of negotiations; experience, judgment and a sure touch rather than promises. Here, as all polls show, the Tories have a clear advantage. They can, and often will, point to the success-es of the Major/Hurd team in dealing with the Gulf war, the

Kurds, the Commonwealth sum-mit, support for Boris Yeltsin and

the Maastricht summit. The Tories emphasise the need for such experience in the light not only of the British presidency of the EC but also of several other international meetings in the second half of the year.

While all prime ministers tend over time to become increasingly interested in foreign affairs. Neil Kinnock would initially be bound to concentrate on domestic issues and rely heavily on his foreign secretary. The differences between Mr Hurd and Mr Kaufman could hardly be greater. Mr Hurd has always looked the part as foreign secretary, the job he always wanted and was for long denied by Margaret Thatcher. He is a reassuring figure, the ultimate safe pair of hands, seldom showing emotion and viewing international upheavals through the detached and slightly world-weary prism of an historian.

By contrast, Mr Kaufman has an infallible knack for irritating opponents and those who do not

of a politican behaving differently in private and in public. In private, he is charming, witty and well informed. In public, he never undersells, expressing outrage and maximising differences to the point of acrimony. He has good judgment, as he showed in masterminding the change in Labour defence policy, but he does not always show it publicly. He is an unsympathetic performer on television; we will not see much of him on our screens during the election.

Senior diplomats, who were delighted when Mr Hurd took over from Mr Major, often express dismay at the prospect of Mr Kaufman as foreign secretary, although he has recently had contacts with senior officials at the Foreign Office. While they might be disturbed by Mr Kaufman's often acerbic style, they would be wrong to underrate his ability.

But in any choice of foreign secretaries, Mr Hurd has the edge as one of the pillars of the

Peter Riddell

Ulster Tory offers policy contrast

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

LAURENCE Kennedy, who has the best chance of being the first Northern Ireland Conservative MP, yesterday outlined his election strategy and views on the future of the province, which differ sharply from the party mainstream.

At a press conference at a seafront hotel at Bangor, County Down, Dr Kennedy - who escaped a republican murder attempt last November - claimed that his vision of the future was in harmony with most Conservative

thinking.

He said he wished to see Northern Ireland governed in exactly the same way as the rest of the United Kingdom, with local government struc-tures no different from those of Wales, Scotland and the English regions. He wants legislation by Orders in Council scrapped and re-placed by ordinary bills, and he wants to see the setting up of a select committee at Westminster. He said he did not agree with the search for a new legislative devolution administration in Belfast but would seek to take part in

Liberals

to contest

74 seats

By BILL FROST

A FOURTH political force

unfurled a battle standard

yesterday as the unrecon-

structed Liberals launched

their manifesto and an-

nounced that the party will contest 74 seats in the general

More in sadness than in

anger, Michael Meadow-

croft, the Liberal treasurer,

castigated what he called the

schismatic Liberal Demo-

crats. "It is very sad we went

our separate ways after the

merger with the SDP," he

said. "But all our warnings

are illiberal, bland, cen-tralised and in many ways in-

distinguishable from the

other two parties," he added.

ment they will shift and fudge

on electoral reform. Quite

simply, they will do anything for power."

Mr Meadowcroft said that

the Liberal manifesto was one

of the most radical docu-

ments to be put before the

electorate in decades. By com-

parison. Paddy Ashdown's policies could have been con-

cocted by the Conservatives.

over 6,000 men.

In the event of a hung parlia-

The Liberal Democrats

have come true.

further inter-party talks if elected. He believed his presence would itself change the agenda for those talks.

Dr Kennedy, who is hoping to wrest the predominantly middle-class North Down constituency from Jim Kil-fedder, the Ulster Popular Unionist, claimed none of the above conflicted with Conservative thinking. "That is all acceptable within Conservative policy and you will not

saying it is not," he said. He argued that official policy stated merely that the party wished to see more power and responsibility returned to lo-cally elected representatives in Northern Ireland and that it was no more specific than that. In his support, he quoted integrationist remarks made in the past six months by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, Chris Patten, the party chairman, and Lord Mackey of Clashm, the Lord Chancellor.

However, Dr Kennedy's

ional Union of Students in southwest Wales. "I don't

think my age matters," she said. "If the ability is there,

young people have a tremen-dous amount to offer." It is the first election in which

she has been eligible to vote.

Fully qualified professional

prime minister. They emphasise the contradiction at the heart of the decision, rehictantly accepted by some senior figures in the party, including Mr Brooke, to admit Northern Ireland Conservatives to the party and indicate that some might find Dr Kennedy's presence on the back benches a political Dr Kennedy, aged 44, a consultant specialising in diabetes, is one of 11 Conservative candidates fighting a Westminster election for the first time in the province, but the only one with a realistic chance of succeeding. North

the 23 councillors. While Mr Kilfedder, who commands considerable loyalty, remains the favourite, his vote will be split four ways between himself, Dr Kennedy, Addie Morrow, of the the Democratic Unionist party. Mr Kilfedder, Dr Kennebroadly Unionist, appeal to a middle-class electorate and each has a fighting chance. take the seat drawing on nat-

Dr Kennedy has not been Youth vote: Elenor Bonner-Evans, aged 21, the youngest candidate to be declared for the election. dent union leader, is standing for Plaid Cymru in Swansea East, held by Labour's Donald Anderson with majority of 19,338 in 1987. She is an economics and politics graduate of Univering the house to the police. sity of Wales, Aberystwyth, and is president of the Nat-

views — which bear a strong resemblance to those of Jim Molyneux, leader of the Ulster Unionist party - are clearly at odds with the sims and objectives pursued by Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, during the past two-and-a-half years, which were supported by the

Down is a prosperous area to the east of Belfast, sometimes known as the "gold coast", which has been the most fertile ground for Conservatives who are the largest party on the local council with six of

Alliance, and Danny Vitty, of dy and Mr Morrow are all The DUP also believes it can ural support for its Paisleyite brand of Unionism in the housing estates of Bangor, and parts of Belfast.

able to return to work at the Royal Victoria Hospital on Falls Road since four members of the republican Irish National Liberation Army tried to kill him last November. They burst into his home at Holywood in County Down and, after tying up his wife Sarah and two children, lay in wait for Dr Kennedy who was returning home from work. The attempt was foiled because Mrs Kennedy pressed a panic button link-



Rebel rosette: Elaine Browne pinning a rosette on her husband John, Winchester's former Tory MP, who is standing as an independent

Connery ventures into election jungle

be independent, that they

can't want their own identity

and nation. It's time for self-

confidence ... I'm attempt-

ing to draw attention to the

fact you cannot get independence without voting SNP. De-

volution with an assembly is a mish-mash. It's indepen-

dence or not at this election."

to live outside

Scotland.

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THE Scottish National party played the ace in its electoral pack yesterday by disclosing the contents of an interview with Sean Connery, who ear-lier this year became the party's most famous member when he joined its Edin-burgh Newington branch.

Mr Connery's first foray into the election jungle, in which he urged Scots to rid themselves of the "old, out-dated union" with England, came as the SNP launched regional campaigns to promote its main policy of independence in Europe. Alex Salmond, party leader, said that Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, was "Scotland's co-

lonial governor". The nationalists are etermined to capitalise on the recent resurgence in popular-ity of independence. In spite of support for independence

having fallen from 50 per cent in January to about 37 per cent, the SNP sees Labour and its limited devolution policy as its main target.

Mr Connery said: "I can't imagine that anybody who is

from Scotland can't want to

IN NORMAL times, Win-

places, its narrow streets, largely freed from traffic, basking in the shadow of the cathedral. But politically at least, these are far from nor-Thanks to the activities of

its desciected MP, John Browne, this long-time Conservative stronghold has been rent asunder and appears to be in imminent danger of surrendering to the Liberal

The plastic sheeting on the scaffolding surrounding the cathedral tower shivers in a fitful spring breeze. Inside, the organ thunders and the choir exhorts worshippers and tourists to keep a sharp lookout for the troops of Midian as they prowl around.

According to your view-point, the prowlers might be the supporters of Mr Browne, those of his official opponent, Gerry Malone, or their political opponents waiting to pick up the pieces.

Whatever people might think of the controversial Mr Browne, he is not a man to give up without a fight. When he announced last week that he proposed to stand as an

independent, a furious party leadership retaliated by with-drawing the whip. Richard Ryder, the government chief whip, wrote to Mr Browne, informing him that he was no longer welcome as a member of the parliamentary party. and that in the "unimagin-able" event of his being reelected, the Conservative

extended to him. Mr Browne's response was that he was consulting his lawyers to determine whether Mr Ruder had inadvertently or otherwise, interfered with the election process by send-ing the letter after he had already resigned the whip.

whip would never again be

Over the past four years Mr Browne's conduct has attracted wide condemnation. First there was the unfortunate business with his former wife, whom he pursued in the courts after she had fallen behind with payments on a £270,000 settlement awarded after their divorce in 1984. Not the way for a gentleman. a public schoolboy and a former Guards officer to behave,

it was said. Then, in 1990, a Commons committee decided that he

Calm city in a Browne study was guilty of failing to disclose all his outside financial and commercial interests and he was suspended for 20 davs. Mr Browne said he ha

> been made a scapegoat and subjected to a show trial. ructions, with the reported resignation of the party agent, Pat Phillips, after she was rebuked for allowing an article by Mr Browne to appear in an internal publication. Felicity Hindson, the association chairman, insists that Mrs Phillips is simply on

sick leave. Mr Browne's troubles have continued. Yesterday the association rejected his plea that his name should be allowed to go forward as the candidate before Mr Malone is officially adopted tomorrow. It also became known yesterday that his secretary, Michelle Lawrence, had resigned, saying she could no

But whatever the view in Westminster and elsewhere in the country, Mr Browne continues to command a significant degree of local support. Among those strolling in the cathedra! precinct, the attitude seemed to be a suitably Christian "Judge not, that ye be not judged."

VOX POP by Peter Barnard

Cheery Blair just keeps on smiling

The time when the voice of the people, to incorporate this column's title, was heard only silently and behind a curtain on elec-tion day has long gone. In this election, television cov-erage is particularly prone to the phone in device, with 6,000 men enjoy better 'sex-life' the BBC and independent television daily using view-A remarkable treatment in male sexual problems, says:

This can be good fun or a waste of time depending on whether one of these slots occasionally produces a yorker bowled down a telephone line to a politician caught flashing outside off stump. Snow in August may be a better bet.

ITN is setting aside a segment of Lunchtime News for this purpose and yesterday the batsman was Tony Blair, Labour's employment spokesman. No question so far invented can cloud Mr Blair's open countenance: he is undoubtedly one of Labour's top television assets. The only thing disturbing me

was the feeling that Tony Blair answering the elector-ate sounded familiar. the levers of a power previ-ously only dreamt about. The main difference be-

Three hours is a long time in television politics but the solution finally dawned, although not before the memory had played one trick. I kept associating Mr Blair with Playdays, a children's programme that goes out at 10.05am. Yesterday, Playdays began with an item about steam trains in which a fresh-faced boy looking portentous was allowed into a signal box where he pulled on levers and in other ways took up a degree of power previously only dreamt about.

No wonder I was confused. This rather neat piece of scheduling had meant that Playdays followed Election Call, in which the fresh-faced Mr Blair made his first appearance of the day, answering questions from viewers about how he would pull

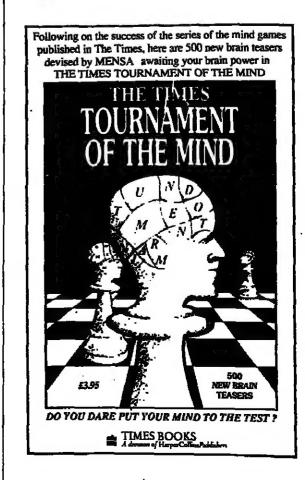
tween the leading players in these consecutive programmes was that the little boy performed with due solemnity whereas Mr Blair was wearing his familiar smile, an all-weather item impervious to doom. He even recites the alleged-ly dreadful Tory record in a way that suggests this state of affairs would only be a serious problem if Labour were not a mere three weeks away from taking over the signal box.

The BBC phone-in will l go out every day in place of Kilroy. This is but a minor change to the sched-ules, replacing a former MP with existing ones who may soon be former. The programme is a "simulcast", meaning we can listen to it on Radio 4 as well as watching it on BBC 1. I must not give the ex-

hausted remote control a

rest for the day without some mention of Anthony Howard, the Newsnight pundit who on Monday night produced the fastest bit of television criticism I can recall. I had dashed from a stilted Panorama on BBCI to find Howard on BBC2 being asked by Jeremy Paxman what he had made of the "three chancellors" (Lamont, Smith and Beith), who were interviewed on Panorama by David Dimbleby. This, incidentally, was only the second sighting of a Dimbleby since the election was called.

Howard gave it the thumbs down. "An over-ref-ereed contest" was what he called it, adding that "the set isolated the protagonists". It was indeed an oddly sparse set. In fact, there seemed to be more physical than philosophical distance between the contenders, which goes to show how illusory a television debate can be.





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Major opens door to more selective education in Tory '39 Steps' manifesto

Choice and diversity get top priority

increase in the number of grammar schools was held out by the prime minister yesterday as the Conservasection of their manifesto a

They also announced that small schools would be allowed to band together to apply for grant-maintained status outside the control of

John Major said he expected that parents in some parts of the country would take advantage of the rule allowing grant-maintained comprehensives to change their character and select their pupils on academic grounds. However, he framed his remarks carefully for fear of lending credence to Labour claims that the Tories plan to revive the 11-plus by the back

"I think there may be some more grammar schools," he said. "We are in favour of choice. This is not going to open the door to huge numbers of grammar schools right across the country replacing the comprehensive

MAIN POINTS IN THE MAIN ESTO

Vitten exams to dominate GCSEs and A-levels.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO PARENTS

POST-16 EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION

POINT-BY-POINT GUIDE TO THE PROPOSALS

choice, there may well be occasions when schools may perhaps wish to seek grammar school status Kenneth Clarke, the educa-

tion secretary, made the promotion of choice and diversity in education the main theme of the manifesto and the chief task for a fourth term. He predicted an avalanche of applications for grant-maintained status if the Tories won

He highlighted the manifesto's vision of parents choosing from a variety of schools suited to the differing apti-tudes and interests of their children. They would include grant-maintained schools of various kinds, city technology colleges, and secondary schools with a strong technological bias.

Mr Clarke said that he wanted to encourage comprehensives to build expertise in subjects including the arts. drama, modern languages or competitive sports.

The pledge to allow small schools to band together to apply for grant-maintained



Child's play: John Major studies work by pupils at All Saints county primary school, Waddington, Lincolnshire, which educates children from the nearby RAF base

status is aimed chiefly at extending the option to small

village primary schools.

The manifesto confirms that popular schools will be given extra funds to build new classrooms and admit more pupils, for which the government has set aside £20 The changes are among

"39 steps to higher standards" that will guide the Tories through another five years in power if they win the election. As the prime minister made clear yesterday, with so many of its reforms newly in place, a re-elected Tory administration would be mainly concerned with implementation of measures such as the national curriculum, regular testing of pupils, information for parents on pupil and school performance and adding to the 200 schools that have opted out of council control.

Labour derided the Tory lans, with Neil Kinnock saying that the 39 steps were "a work of fantasy" but not as good as the John Buchan novel. Mr Major could not be taken seriously on education in the light of his record of perpetual experimentation in schools, the fall in reading standards, crumbling build-ings and oversized class-

Taken in the round, the

On March 29th treat

Mum to a box without a

single calorie.

present and planned changes to education will revolutionise the system and amount to the biggest upheaval since the 1944 Education Act, Mr Ma-

Blaming "fashionable" educational theories peddled by Labour local authorities for undermining standards, he said that the battle lines were clearly drawn between "Conservative choice and opportunity and socialist doctrine and dogma".

He deflected questions about cabinet ministers sending their children to private schools by saying that his aim was to ensure that everybody will be able to send their children to state schools with absolute confidence". The freedom to educate a child privately was fundamental to a free society, he added.

Mr Clarke said that the

government planned to change rules that stopped over-subscribed schools from expanding their premises to accommodate extra pupils.

We propose to change the rules. If a popular school can demonstrate it is consistently over-subscribed and if the governors and head want to expand the school, they will, under the new rules, attract the capital necessary for them to expand in response to pop-ular demand," Mr Clarke

local authority comprehen-Opting out may have been much slower to take off than

200 schools stand on knife-edge By John O'Leary, education correspondent

APRIL 9 will either make or oreak one of the great educational experiments of the past 20 years. Opting out will be both a central feature of the election campaign and an im-mediate concern of the win-

gates. With the subject methate concern of the win-ning party.

A Conservative victory would prompt a torrent of applications for grant-main-tained status, while a Labour government would set about dismantling the fiedgeling sector to create a uniform causing such controversy locally and nationally, many schools have been reluctant to rock the boat until the political outlook is more settled.
Only 200 of the 25,000 state schools have opted out

so far, but the Grant-Maintained Schools Foundation has had enquiries from 2.000 more. Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, expects so many to apply to be grant Margaret Thatcher predicted

maintained that he is planning a new organisation to administer their budgets. He would like to see all secondary schools opt out in the lifetime of the next parliament, and

expects most to do so. Up to now, enthusiasm for self-government has been restricted to relatively few local authorities. More than half of the 428 parental ballots in the first three years of opting out have taken place in 12 largely Conservative authorities. Labour says that that shows the system is popular only where a school is threatened with closure, or is underfunded; Mr Clarke says that it

pigeon-holed on political

As Mr Clarke sirily con-

fessed the other day, his first

act on being offered the job of

education secretary by Mrs. Thatcher was to tell her he

would have nothing to do with her pet project of educa-tion vouchers. A beleaguered

prime minister was forced to

retreat and Mr Clarke hur-

the record straight.

There was more straight

talking to come. While many

of his cabinet colleagues

hedged their bets on the night

Mrs Thatcher consulted

them on her chances of win-ning the leadership election,

reflects the reluctance of parents to take on hostile Labour

Mr Major's plans include further restrictions on councils' campaigning against parents who want a school to opt out. He is also promising that groups of small schools will be allowed to form consortia to opt out, sharing

The Conservatives' plans do not include the compuisory ballots favoured by many on the right of the party to Indeed, Mr Clarke acknowledges that the financial advantages of grant-maintained status are bound to lessen as

Labour and the Liberal Democrats say that assurances of equal treatment for local authority and grantmaintained schools have been broken in order to rescue a failing policy. Grantmaintained schools were always offered 15 per cent extra to buy in services that local authorities, but they have also been funded for capital projects at four times the rate for local schools.

Opting out on the scale envisaged by the Conservatives would leave local authorities with a much reduced role. Apart from running the rump of schools that choose not to opt out, they will have responsibility for only a few central services, for example catering for special educa-tional needs and transport.

Some authorities are already finding it difficult to run a full service as opting out spreads. Hillingdon, in north-west London, where there are four grant-maintained schools, has told 100 parents, for instance, that it will not be able to place their children for several months, while other have been allotted schools miles from their

Mr Clarke has promised that the education depart-ment will never take over the day-to-day running of schools, and he will not replicate the control exercised by local authorities. However, his new quango with regional centres suggests a bureaucra-cy far in excess of the 53 civil servants who are now responsible for the sector.

Labour would immediately end opting out for grant-maintained schools which would be offered legal protection from discrimination by councillors as they were handed back to their local authorities.

The loner with a talent for straight talk and surprises

in 1987, but few doubt that a

fourth term for the Conserva-

tives would open the flood-

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke could be forgiven a private chuckle yesterday after the launch of the education section of the Tory

Five years ago, the same event had got the campaign off to a rocky start as Margaret Thatcher and Kenneth Baker had stumbled over optout schools. Yesterday, as John Major purred his way through the latest prospectus, Mr Clarke could afford to sit back in the comfort of knowing that the Tory schools pro-gramme had been agreed well before thelaunch.

The coherence that Mr Major and Mr Clarke brought to the launch was in part a product of the education secretary's success in bulldozing through over the past 15 months the most awkward aspects of the reforms begun in 1987. Potentially explosive questions about teachers' pay, the content of sensitive subjects such as art, music and history, testing of pupils, examination league tables, the running of the examination and curriculum advisory bodies, and private inspections of schools had all been long defused.

In part, this was a tribute to his political skills and his capacity to bend the White-hall machine to his will - no small achievement at the only department that ever put Mrs Thatcher in her place.

But it was also evidence of the bond that exists between Mr Clarke and the prime minister. The education secretary, nominally a lowly post in the cabinet pecking order, has pole-vaulted over some of

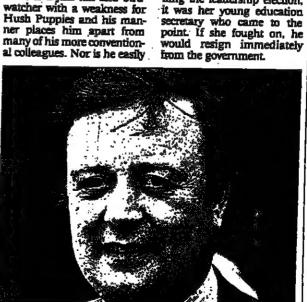
his more senior colleagues into the six-strong "A" team of cabinet ministers running

the Tory election campaign. Mr Clarke has been brack-eted with Michael Heseltine and Chris Patten as the chief Conservative hitmen and his contributions over the next three weeks will not be confined to the playground.

A QC and Cambridge graduate, his courtroom skills have been sharpened in the

Commons chamber and in frequent tussies with the unions and vested interests. He is a jezz fan and birdwatcher with a weakness for Hush Puppies and his manner places him apart from

many of his more convention-



Clarke: has pole-vaulted over senior colleagues into the forefront of the election "A" team

Slogans tend towards politically incorrect

tripped them up first. The first hiccup came when Tim

It's all very well for the To-I ries to use literary sound-ing phrases like "the 39 steps to better education" when plugging their prom-ises to make us smarter after April 9, but the choice of slogan does make you won-der in the matter of dispens-ing knowledge, who is worse shod than the shoemaker's

Are the well read young researchers at Conservative Central Office not aware that John Buchan, who wrote the famous Richard Hannay adventure story, is now deemed politically unfashionable, ac-cused of being racist for his various references to "fat Jews", "nigger band" and "blue-black dagos"? Worse still, it was the sec-

ond time this week that the Tories have betrayed an edu-

Eggar, the education minis-ter, confided the government's programme to break-fasting listeners of Radio 4's Today programme yesterday. Brian Redhead, his interviewer, remarked: "Not long ago you said you could not teach The Thirty-Nine Steps in schools because it was Richard Hannay and it was regarded to be improper. I can't remember why. Mr Eggar also seemed to have forgotten. "We certainly want to make sure that the children get to know literature," he stammered back.

Equally surprising, was Monday's revelation that Ar-istotle and Major bear the same political birthmark This was Kenneth Baker's contribution to our national learning curve. The home secretary told a newspaper

Has it got a

diarist that he was writing the history of Conservatism "from Aristotle to Major" (is he expecting to have free

"Aristotle would have been a John Major supporter, no doubt about it," Mr Baker

Oh really? You mean the same Aristotle who thought that some people were born to be slaves and that these slaves ranked just the same in their owners' eyes as any other of his pos-sessions? The Aristotle who thought that the husband and father was boss, entitled to rule his family with a regal

If this skin-deep sloganeering peppers the rest of the Tory manifesto unveiled today, we can expect Silence of the Lambs and Clockwork Orange to become agriculture ministry. policy proposals. And, who knows, the health department might even be toying with Gone with the Wind.









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ife-edge

Poll uncertainty is delaying end of recession, Major says

THE prime minister said yesterday that uncertainty over the outcome of the general election was holding back recovery and predicted that the recession would end after the April 9 poll.

John Major began his general election tour with a trip to Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, carefully planned to press home the Conservative message on education, their chosen theme of the day. He visited a primary school near Grantham, Margaret Thatcher's birthplace, and the pioneer city technology college in Nottingham opened by his predecessor in

The agenda, however, was soon upset when news of the disappointing January output figures reached the prime minister's entourage and Mr Major found himself having to deny that the recession had cast a shadow over the eleccampaign. Mr Major said that the output figures were historical and mirrored in many other industrialised

"We are now getting ourselves into a position where we can lift out of recession," he said. "The impediment that lies between us and people wanting to reinvest and move out of recession is the general election result. Once that is over - once we get back with a clear majority people will begin reinvest ing. They have liquidated their debt. They will begin to reinvest and out of recession we will come.

He repeated the message at the second of his "meet John Major" gatherings in Not-tingham last night. When a restaurant owner in the specially chosen audience in the Albert Hall asked him about the recession and value-added tax levels Mr Major replied: "Most of what the country needs to get us out of recession is in place." Inflation was predicted to fall below 4 per cent, interest rates had fallen, and many people

had cleared their debts. He went on: "The capacity for people to spend is there. What is the missing ingredient? I believe the missing ingredient is confidence is going to happen, who is going to be in charge, what the tax structure will be, and

Party is

sunk by

tax bill

The largest fringe group, the Corrective party, has pulled out of the election. Lindi St

Clair, its leader, said she

could not afford the £25,000

deposits for her 50 candi-

dates. The self-styled Miss Whiplash faces a £60,000 tax

The former madam, aged 33. is urging her 8.500 party members to vote for the

Liberal Democrats. The Cor-

rective party campaigns to decriminalise prostitution.

Tories best bet

Ladbroke's, the bookmakers,

yesterday reponed heavy bet-

ting on a Conservative elec-

tion victory, particluarly in the South-east. It shortened

odds to 2/1 on a Tory victory.

the shortest price since the book was opened. Labour went out from 11/10 to 6/4 and the Liberal Democrats

Songs for votes

Betty Williams, the Labour

candidate in Conwy, has tak-

message across in song. Mrs

Williams has teamed up with

her son to woo voters in clubs

and community groups in Llandudno. She is trying to

Pledges taped

view with Jon Owen Jones.

the Labour candidate in Car-

Insanely yours

with frish Sea water.

diff Central.

Welsh Office minister.

were quoted at 300/1.

what the policies will be. The impediment to that confidence is the general election. When we have had the election and when we have a clear majority, that uncertainty will drift away." Earlier, when asked when the recession would end, Mr Major re-plied: "After the election result — after we are safely back

in Downing Street." After launching the Con-servative education prog-ramme, Mr Major flew from RAF Northolt to RAF Waddington near Lincoln. He visited All Saints primary school in the village of Waddington where many of the 274 pupils are the children of RAF

He explained the purpose behind his visit: "I do not think you can find out what is happening in the schools simply by sitting behind a desk in Whitehall. It is an opportunity to hear what the teachers have to say, to find out the attitudes and feelings in the

Surrounded by children, he spoke of the change in atmosphere in schools compared "School is a much happier place, a much friendlier place. You can see from the faces of the children how much they enjoy being here."

The prime minister said that Conservative policies

were about increasing choice for schools, parents and punature and style of education. What matters is the freedom that will be there if schools want to run their own affairs. That is not something that would be there under the other two parties."

He moved on to Nottingham where the Conservatives are defending two marginal seats. Nottingham East, with a majority of 456, is the sixth most marginal in the country. His arrival at the £13 mil-

lion Djanogly city technology college was disrupted as the first egg of the campaign was splattered across his pale blue "battle bus". The police arrested one man and a crowd of protesters carrying Socialist Workers party and across election. anti-election alliance banners, greeted him there. The college, one of 13 CTCs, was funded in part by Harry Djanogly, a prominent local businessman. Mr Major saw the library, language labora-tory and the music room where he and his wife Norma were screnaded by a class singing World in Union.

Mr Major's touring team is headed by Sir Norman Fowler, the former cabinet minister, and includes Shirley Trotter, the tour manager, Jonathan Hill, Mr Major's political secretary, Edward Llewellyn, his special policy adviser, and Tim Collins, his chief press officer.

Crime-busters wanted

THE prime minister called on celebritles and parents last night to set an example to young people in the bat-tie against crime. John Ma-jor urged people with the greatest influence on the young to stop them from falling into the "dreadful pit" of criminal behaviour.

He ruled out any question of a return to capital pun-ishment, and referred to recent cases in which people who had served long prison sentences had subse-quently been found to be innocent. "I think it would have weighed very heavily British public if we had had capital punishment."

Mr Major told an audi-

ence of Tory supporters in Nottingham that one of the biggest mistakes of the past 20 years had been the fail-ure to tackle criminal behaviour at a suitably young age. "I think sometimes we have been so tolerant in understanding crime at an early age that we almost appear to have validated it,"

"One of the most powerful pressures on young people is peer pressure," he said. That should come from "the people they ad-mire, who they follow, the people who loom high in their lives, people who are famous in one form or another or people in their family circle".



By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

of his fathers

AS NEIL Kinnock set off round the country on the Red Rose Express to woo pensioners and teachers on the first proper day of campaigning, it emerged that transport had played a vital role in his birthplace. If a ship had been waiting for his grandfather instead of a train Neil Kinnock could be fighting the US primaries instead of the general election.

Touring a day centre for old people in Downend, Bris-tol, Mr Kinnock told a pensioner that his grandfather had come from Bristol. "He had a terrible row at home and decided to run away to sea. He went down to the docks: it must have been the only day there was no ship going to the United States. He went to Temple Meads station [Bristol] and got a train to South Wales

instead."

The first day of the campaign started with a flurry of cameras, microphones and tape recorders at Paddington Neil and Glenys boarded the Red Rose, a specially chartered train for a secret desti-

minutes later the train arrived at Bristol Parkway, and journalists were bused to Kingswood, one of the 51 marginal Tory constituencies which Labour needs to win.

A suburban dormitory east of Bristol, it is held by a 7.5 per cent Tory majority. Labour claims that a recent NOP poll shows that it is seven points ahead in Kingswood and the party claims its can-didate, Roger Berry, can oust the incumbent, Robert

Mr Kinnock continued the campaign theme of the day. education, with a visit to Staple Hill primary school. Hundreds of children crowded in the playground to see the Labour leader. Cheers of "yes, yes, yes" rose from the seven-year-olds. But on later inspec-tion the children had only been asked if they welcomed a longer playtime and if they

liked netball and for The harsh words about John Major's record on education were reserved for journalists later. "Mr Major," he said, "did not think that qual-ifications counted for much."

Later Mr Kinnock almost gave the game away as he and Glenys Kinnock took over a reading lesson in the school library. Mr Kinnock admitted that Glenys was a teacher in real life. "This isn't real life, this is just pretending." Dai-sy, aged six, said: "I always thought you were pretend."

At the Downend day centre, Mr Kinnock chatted with a number of pensioners. One, Frances East, aged 81. a former Tory supporter, said she intended to vote for Mr Kinnock this time. "I have never voted Labour before, but it is time for a change,

time for fresh ideas." Waving a fond farewell to his aged fans, Mr Kinnock sped back to London on the Red Rose, which astonished west London locals by stopping at Ealing Broadway. As Mr Kinnock sped away in his red Rover, a lone voice shouted "vote Conservative".

Lib Dems look to London

By SHELLA GUNN

PADDY Ashdown exploited Labour's problem of the loony left effect in London yesterday as he toured four constituencies around the capital where the Liberal Democrats have a proven record of success

His message in Southwark and Bermondsey, Sutton and Cheam, Richmond and Barnes, and Twickenham was to judge the party's can-didates on the strength of the Liberal Democrat councillors' actions in recent years.

The party's fortunes depend in part on tactical voting by those who seek an alternative to the Conservatives and recognise that Labour has no chance of win-

ASHDOWN

Democrats to make a breakthrough, that would need to be backed up by a substantial swing in their favour by dis-

Mr Ashdown and his team launched a policy document Changing London for Good which blamed the housing, transport, pollution and economic problems of the capital on a mixture of Labour and Tory incompetence. Although London and its suburbs did not prove fertile ground for the Liberal party. the new party leadership detects signs of a swing to them in spite of holding only Southwark and Bermondsey.

The party is committed to setting up an elected strategic authority for greater London as part of a system of regional authorities. Mr Ashdown said: "London is becoming a very significant asset for the Liberal Democrats while it remains a potential drag factor for Labour. We expect to see gains and progress in

In Richmond and Barnes, where the candidate Jenny Tonge has a strong chance of unseating the Tory MP, Jeremy Hanley, Mr Ashdown's main topic of conversation with children was the party's commitment to setting up an animal welfare commission

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solicitor, in Crosby, and her twin, Angela, a trade union official, in Wallasey

Campaigns take off by air, road and rail

BY LIN JENKINS

THE cost and lengths - both in miles and terms of logistics - to which parties will stretch to get their messages across were graphically displayed unseat Sir Wyn Roberts, the yesterday. By road, rail and air the politicians tried to sell their manifestos across the country.

A 15-minute cassette tape of John Major, with £20 mil-"edited highlights" of the Labour party manifesto is being produced later today by campaigners in Cardiff for blind and partially sighted lion likely to be spent before April 9, took to the air in a specially chartered plane; Neil Kinnock chose an InterCity 125 to go to Bristol; voters. Volunteers will record while Paddy Ashdown coma condensed version of the bined canary yellow battle party's pledges plus an interbus with shoe leather. Mr Major, accompanied

by passengers from the media, flew to RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire, for a series of engagements and photo sessions in the county and Screaming Lord Sutch, the leader of the Official Monster neighbouring Nottingham-shire. The aircraft will be available throughout the

Raving Loony party, yester-day launched his party's campaign. manifesto. Vote Insanity, you The Tories were reticent as know it Makes Sense, in a to the cost. However, part of ceremony on Blackpool beach, and toasted success the expense is being met by the £4,000 a head fee for LOGISTICS

transport charged to journalists and photographers join-ing Mr Major's tours. Mr Kinnock's Red Rose Express, a 20-year-old 125, is one of several offered for charter by British Rail and will be used twice more dur-

ing Labour's campaign. With an estimated cam-paign budget of £10 million, the Labour party provided all 100 passengers with a full English breakfast on the return trip to Paddington. Mr Ashdown's 60-seat

Volvo coach took to the London streets yesterday fully equiped with televisions, radios, fax machine, photocopier and telephones. Mark Payne, who has organised the whole transport package, refused to disclose the cost.

Forty per cent of the transport costs, in a campaign likely to cost £2 million, would, however, be met by the £4,500 charged to journalists to join the Lib Dem leader up and down the country.

Old faithfuls go to ground

Leaving almost before the party has begun, some of the celebrities who a few days ago seemed to pledge their souls to the Tories now seem to want to keep their souls to themselves. Nobody said that celebrities were going to be faithful in their political affiliations, even during a tight and keenly fought election campaign, but the speed of their defection must be jolting Conservative Central Office.

Then again, celebrities did not get where they are today by alienating chunks of their public by endorsing only one side in a debate. They know that when they are in a right corner, etiquette demands that they always offer the other cheek, for a social peck. If it's consistency you want, stick to cake batter.

Some of the famous men and women retreating discreetly from the spotlights are claiming that they were never asked for their support, or sounded out on whether they wished to appear on the all-star list of Conservative voters. So they have disowned the Tories and asked for their names to be withdrawn. Richard

The Tories' celebrity chorus line has done a vanishing act and will not reappear until April 10 at the earliest, Joe Joseph has found

Branson, the airline tycoon, is one who has decided that he is not willing to be branded a Conservative sympathiser quite so openly, though this may not have struck John Major as a surprise: Branson makes something of a habit of bailing out of dodgy craft at the last minute just before a crash landing.

Michael Winner, the film director, says that his actress girlfriend, Jenny Seagrove, was surprised by her appearance on the wellpublicised list of 84 celebrities. "She is making a film in southern India at the moment and she won't be here for the election but she has asked her agent to write a letter to Mr Patten," Mr Winner said.

"It was a bit off. They didn't ask her at all. She is not a Conservative supporter, she is a floating voter. She

once went to a cocktail party at number I l but it was not a political event."

Mr Winner directed the Death Wish films and is clearly a man who knows how to take revenge into his own hands if he feels unjustly treated. The Tories can just count themselves lucky they didn't put Charles Bronson on the list, too.

The entertainer Lulu was also among those named as an official Blue supporter. She was not in the country yesterday but her agent was unsure of her political sympathies. "It may be a bit like a Christmas card list," she said. "If you have been on it before you are automatically on it again without being asked."

Swimmer Sharron Davies and Irish international footballer David O'Leary are also shy of being named as Tory supporters though they appeared on the list. But all is not lost. Shirley

Bassey, the singer, Paul Daniels, the magician, and Cilla Black, the television personality, are still in the Tories' backing chorus. Or maybe

y incorre

Stor Elips #

Clinton preaches message of fallen man ready for office



Question time: Clinton answering students in

exander praised Bill Clinton. 'Listen, sisters and brothers," he told his all-black congregation. "God has not made another perfect man since he made Adam, and Adam

sinned. If you're looking for

perfection, stop. The Arkansas governor grinned broadly before tak-ing the pulpit himself. When the pastor mentioned imperfection, he joked: "I started to stand up and shout 'Amen'." It was a moment of light relief after three months of what Jerry Brown, Mr Clinton's rival Democrat presidential nominee, calls a "scandal a week". It did not last. As Mr Clinton marched in a St Patrick's Day parade that afternoon, onlookers shouted "womaniser" and

AT CHICAGO'S Union Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, the Rev Marvin Alchanelling Arkansas state business to the law firm of his wife, Hillary. He was last week accused of a dubious financial deal involving land in the state.

Last autumn, the Bush campaign team dismissed a putative Clinton candidacy with the single word "women". The governor has since survived so many bullets that he has been variously dubbed the Terminator and the Timex candidate, because "he takes a licking but keeps on ticking". Nothing appears to stop him, and yesterday he was expected virtually to tie up the Democratic nomination by winning the Michigan and Illinois primaries. That would not end Mr Clinton's ordeal. Before he quit the Democratic race, Bob Kerrey predicted that the

Inner strength, luck and shrewd tactics in adversity have propelled Arkansas's governor along the White House road, Martin Fletcher writes from Chicago

Clinton up this autumn like a soft pearut". Already the White House has sent opposition research specialists to Arkansas to scour Mr Clinton's record for an "October surprise". It has approached Roger Ailes, the master of negative advertising who de-stroyed Michael Dukakis in

With Mrs Clinton also an election issue now, rival carnpaigns openly wonder how he survives. The answer is through courage, luck and shrewd strategic calculation. His inner strength may derive from growing up as inter-

Republicans would open Mr mediary between his battered mother and aggressive, alcoholic stepfather. Equally it could be a factor of Mr Clinton's vaulting ambition. This is a man who put himself back in the Vietnam draft at the age of 23 to preserve his "political viability", who became Arkansas attorney-general at 28 and governor at 31, now a battle-hardened veter-

an of 17 elections in 17 years. Mr Clinton was lucky in the paucity of viable Democratic alternatives, lucky in the mendacious record of Gennifer Flowers, the singer who claimed to have been his lover, and fortunate in the Amer-



ican media's reluctance to destroy him. He : exerts a Kennedyesque charm on reporters. They want to be White House insiders. Having cut down Joe Biden and Gary Hart in 1988, they have also grown wary of their

Above all, Mr Clinton knew what to expect and planned accordingly. He calculated that the public was sick of absolute perfection, and would respond to openness. Before declaring last autumn. he and his wife staged a breakfast for Washington reporters and acknowledged that "our relationship has not been perfect" but insisted their marriage was strong.

He has stuck rigidly to basic rules. Wherever possible he has blamed the tabloid press and Republican dirty tricks. He has never look rattied, run from cameras or avoided reporters. He has always appeared to answer questions, even when being evasive. He has admitted general shortcomings but not specifics, never once letting the word "adultery" pass his lips. He tushed on to primetime television to confront the Flowers allegations, himself released the celebrated draft

pointed an independent lawyer to review the land deal. Because he has never publicly panicked, neither have his financial backers. Anticipating the presidential election. his aides have been quietly pressing journalists to scrutinise President Bush's

life more closely. Top Democrats admire Mr Clinton's courage but fear that each successive charge is another bullet hole through which his strength is slowly bleeding. Mr Clinton seeks to turn the barrage of allegations to his advantage. His endurance demonstrates his strength of character and purpose, he argues, and that he alone will be "tough enough to stand up to the garbage the Republicans will throw at you".

President Chiaton? page 14

Cheney

linked to

Big poll turnout is boost for de Klerk

"draft-dodger". In a televised

large numbers throughout South Africa yesterday, boosting President de Klerk's prospects of winning the crucial "yes" vote he needs in the referendum on constitutional reforms. By late afternoon, the chief referendum officer in Cape Town was predicting that the national turnout would be above 70 per cent.

Officials reported traffic jams and long queues in all 15 regions as voters swamped polling stations as soon as they opened. The turnout indicated that Mr de Klerk's warnings against the dangers of apathy had been heeded. The consensus was that a low percentage poll would favour the right-wing Conservative party, campaigning for a "no" vote. By midday, however, it was already apparent that supporters on both sides were turning out in strength.

More than 7,000 votes had been cast at the Johannesburg city hall polling station before the lunch hour brought thousands more people to join long queues. Cape Town reported 600 voters an hour, and in Durban one queue stretched more than 100 yards into the municipal gardens.

Officials in Bloemfontein, the Orange Free State capital, hurriedly set up additional booths after being inundated by 15,000 voters in the first five hours, and polling stations in the northern suburbs of Johannesburg reported that they were running out of ballot papers. Voting trends at Pietersburg in the northern Transvaal suggested that there would be a record local turnout of more

than 80 per cent. At Parktown, a liberal constituency in Johannesburg, ambulances lined up outside a polling station at a primary school as doctors and nurses escorted patients in wheel-

South Africans flocked to vote in yesterday's referendum, writes Gavin Bell in

Johannesburg

chairs, some still receiving intravenous drips. A local agent for the liberal Democratic party said: "I've never seen anything like this. We're processing one person every

Minor scuffles broke out at several polling stations, and two bomb hoaxes briefly halted proceedings in Durban, but no serious incidents were reported. Six uniformed members of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement who used abusive language at Bothasig town hall in the Cape were escorted from the premises by referendum agents.

Peter Soal, southern Transvaal chairman of the Democratic party, predicted a poll in excess of 75 per cent, saying: "We are overwhelmed. The polling booths are be-sieged." Independent analysts revised their estimates of a "yes" vote upwards from 56 per cent, saying 60 per cent or more was within reach if Mr Soal's prediction was correct.

informal poils of voters in the Transvaal indicated that the government's campaign had succeeded in driving home the message that a "no" vote would mean economic disaster and sporting isolaations appeared to be swaying waverers.

Optimism was running high in both camps. A Conservative official trying to whip up support in a liberal Johannesburg constituency said: "Ja, we need help here. But we're wiping them out in the eastern Transvaal; 90 per

cent in Bethal were voting 'no' when I left there this

of constitutional development, said it was clear each side had mobilised solid support in its own strongholds.
"Obviously there is very strong public awareness of what is at stake. It is difficult to judge the outcome at this stage, but the overall pattern is encouraging so far, and I think we should get at least

Paul Fouche, acting Trans-vaal secretary of the Conser-vative party, said the right-wing offensive would continue irrespective of the referendum outcome. "If we lose, it will be a battle that has been lost and not the cam-paign. We will then fight with more vigour to turn a marginal defeat - because it can be no more than that - into a majority for us."
Rival leaders traded

warnings of chaos and economic collapse until a few hours before polling began. R. F. "Pik" Botha, the foreign minister, told his final campaign raily: "Not a single country in the world would recognise a government based on the policies of the Conservative party. A 'no' vote would cause this ship to sink abruptly, economically, politically, and socially. We dare not take that risk."

Professor Willem Kleynhans, a prominent political analyst, predicted that South Africa was heading for trouble no matter who won. "If be chaos when the black people try to make this country ungovernable. If the 'yes' vote wins, the right wing will become more militant than ever... there is, therefore, the possibility of a coup."

The result of the referendum is being announced in Cape Town this morning.



carried to receive treatment in Jaffa yesterday after a masked Palestin-ian, wielding a sword, ran amok and killed two Israelis and injured a dozen others before being shot dend ties were tecnagers in fancy dress who had gathered outside a disco to celebrate the Jewish holiday of Purim (Richard Beeston writes from

fied as a merchant, aged 22, from Gama, who was known to be a follow er of the late Iranian soiritual leader. they discovered Islamic Resistance

Pollution alert halts

FROM AFP IN MEXICO CITY

capital

OFFICIALS closed all chools, ordered partial shutdowns of industry, and warned residents against going out as ozone pollution reached a dangerously high 390 points on Mexico City's 500-point air pollution scale

yesterday.

Polluting industries such as cement and paint companies were ordered to reduce their production by three-quarters as the authorities implemented a phase of their environmental contingency plan. About 75 other industries were told that they must cut back by 50 per cent, and half of all government cars were instructed to stay off the

sued warnings to the popula-tion in radio broadcasts to avoid leaving their homes. Any reading near 400 on the ous, particularly for children and the elderly, who are most

cheques affair FROM PETER STOTHARD HE EDITOR IN WASHINGTON RICHARD Chency, the American defence secretary, yes-

terday became the most prominent political figure caught up in the House banking scandal. As senior Bush cabinet members scoured their banking records for possible bounced cheques, Mr Cheney prepared to address an afternoon press conference to ex-plain his conduct. The White House had ordered all officials who had once been members of Congress to examine their accounts. Mr Cheney was a congressman repre-senting Wyoming between 1979 and 1989.

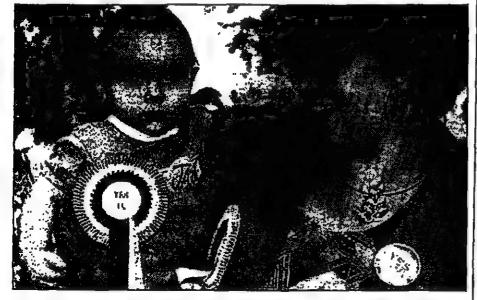
Other names mentioned among a mass of rumours were Lynn Martin, the labour secretary, whose spokesman said that she "may have bounced a cheque or two over

the years", and Ed Madigan, the agriculture secretary. Republicans fear that the involvement of senior Bush officials, however slight, will blimt their ability to use the bouncing cheque issue against the House Democratic leadership. President Bush said: "I am not jumping on any individual. Everyone has his or her own case to make to

In a separate development in the widening affair, federal assess whether criminal charges might be brought as a result of the bank's practice of honouring congressmen's eneques whether there were deposits to cover the pay-ments or not. Investigators are examining whether mem-bers avoided tax liabilities and campaign finance regulations by, in effect, taking unregulated interest-free

loars. A spokesman for the vicepresident said Dan Quayle had written no cheques for which insufficient funds were in his account. He has been to the fore among Republicans arguing that the House Bank affair gives an unrepeatable political opportunity to loosen the Democratic hold on Capitol Hill.
Observers in Washington

predict survival in the affair for those who quickly show that they were occasional offenders whose carelessness was exacerbated by bank inefficiency. Others, who routinely abused the privilege of House banking and who bor-rowed large amounts, may be hard-pressed to explain themselves to an already angry electorate. Once the autumn political campaigns begin, the distinction may become



Tomorrow's man: cradled on his mother's arm. Wessels Cronje, aged one, makes his sympathies clear outside a polling station in Pretoria yesterday

pledge on US housing loan FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON American-Israeli relations attention away from domestic

Arens mission fails to win

MOSHE Arens, the Israeli defence minister, acknowl-edged yesterday that Israel's attempt to gain \$10 billion in American housing loan guar-antees appeared to be on the brink of collapse.

Speaking on Israeli radio, Mr Arens, who is on an official visit to Washington, said he thought the chances of securing the loan guarantees. were dim. He was speaking hours after President Bush rebuffed last-ditch congressional efforts to ease the linkage between the guarantees and a freeze on further building of settlements in the occupied territories.

The compromise proposed by some congressmen would have allowed Israel to receive \$1 billion in loans and still allow new settlements on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. Mr Arens said here on Monday that Israel would "not beg or crawl for help. We are a small people, but we are a proud people." He said the settlements in the occupied territories were a key element

continued to deteriorate yesterday with State Department and Pentagon officials adding to their list of American military technology Israel is alleged to have passed to China, South Africa or Latin

Monday's talks between Richard Cheney, the Ameri-can defence secretary, and Mr Arens seem to have done little to quell the flow of leaks from unnamed officially about what military items Israei is meant to have sold to "pari-ah" countries. Yesterday Israel was accused of selling details to China of a highly

sensitive artillery laser-guidance system, known as the Israeli diplomats insisted last night that this latest leak was, like last week's American accusations over the Patriot missile, politically inspired and intended to embarrass Jerusalem. They daim James Baker, the American Secretary of State, either is using the issue to boost Mr Bush's election fortunes by diverting

problems or hopes to topple Yitzhak Shamir's govern-ment in the Israeli elections Despite Mr Arens's agree-

ment on Monday to a US inspection team visiting Israel to check on the American claims, Bush administration officials expressed scepticism that inspectors would be able to get to the bottom of the problem and doubted that Israel would allow much access for the team. What particularly irks / Israeli diplomats here is the way that the issue has blown up and the press has been used. The first leak, accusing Is-

rael of selling a Pauriot missile to China, appeared in The Washington Times last week. This was quickly followed by a leak to the The Wall Street Journal of a report by the State Department's inspector-general suggesting that Israel had exported other advanced US arms technology without Washington's per-mission. Israel denies the

affected by respiratory

Kenyan opposition to meet in London

By David Watts, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AS PRESIDENT Moi arrives in London today. Kenya's main opposition party is finalising plans for a special summit in London to settle the leadership question in rime for the elections expect-

ed later this year. Leaders of the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy say they are resorting to a London meeting to avoid the extralegal tactics they allege Mr Moi is using increasingly against the opposition. There are also signs the forum may be able to establish an alliance with other opposition parties to try to present the president with a united front and counteract his attempts

to set tribe against tribe. Though Mr Moi's visit is billed as private, he will meet Foreign Office officials. His critics see an increasingly isolated president who is afraid for himself. "If he could talk to people and a way could be found to protect him, he would go, I am sure," said Gitobu Imanyara, a human rights lawyer and editor of

The Nairobi Law Monthly. Njenga Mungai, MP for Molo, northwest of Nairobi. said yesterday that fighting between the president's Kalenjin tribesmen and Kikuyus erupted in the constituency on Sunday. The death toll climbed to 12 yesterday.

camouflage, to disrupt the

The court decision, as citi-

zens were entering the fes-

tive mood in hundreds of

green-clad bars and restan-

rants, inflicted an unpleas-

ant tactical choice on

Protests by prancing gay leprechauns and a boy-cott by Mayor David "O' Dinkins" failed to dampen 150,000-strong march. Some 3,000 uniformed police and many kilted officers helped preserve what passed for peace amid the wailing of 50 pipe bands. While the Queer militants, the festivities of some two million New Yorkers who turned out yesterday for the city's annual celebration of St Patrick. most of them non-Irish, app-America's biggest parade lied their usual extreme tacand ethnic rite went ahead ties to St Patrick, the more subdued Celts of ILGO waved placards of famous

hours after a federal judge rejected a demand by the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organisation (ILGO) that he order the Ancient Order of Hibernians to let them join their march up Fifth Avenue. The decision provoked a gay counter-parade and attempts by members of the militant Queer Nation group, some in full Irish politicians, as they had to

decide whether to denounce discrimination or follow the more politically profitable path of joining the

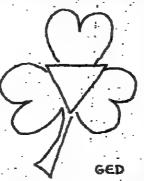
Mr Dinkins, the descendant of slaves, who adds an "O' " to his name on March 17 like his predecessor Edward "O'Koch", refused to appear and called the exclusion of a gay unit "a sad day for New York". Irish homosexuals, including Oscar Wilde and Roger

Governor Mario took the same course, but not the city's third most powerful politician, Senator Alfonse D'Amato. "I've never missed a St Paddy's Day." said the Italian-American Republican, who was swathed in green for the occasion.

The absence of a gay contingent at least averted ugly incidents of the kind which

Excluded Irish gays take a walk on the Wilde side

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK!



marred Sunday's parade in Boston and last year's New York version. In that, Mayor

Dinkins was pelted with beer after he marched among a bevy of homosexual activists. Deploring the exclusion of homosexuals yesterday, The New York Times recalled that, as the first great "ethnic" immigrant group, the Irish had long endured bigotry and that, as recently as early this century, job advertisements would

say: "No Irish need apply". The New York Post, garbed yesterday in front-page green, was divided. One columnist ranted about the insult to tradition by meanspirited outsiders and another denounced the Hi-

bernians as "a group of 18th-century bigots". Other frish interest of Manhattan.

groups found another cause for complaint: the annual conversion to Irishness by the drink industry. Activists have been protesting over the way that everything from German beer to Jamaican rum has been advertised with shamrocks and suggestions that they are just the thing for improving Irish

Small wonder that in the midst of all the posturing and protesting by the politi-cians and Irish "wannabes". many of the thousands of young, real immigrants from the Emerald Isle repaired yesterday to the calm of their capuccinos in their favoured cales on the Lower East Side isi reaches liwith rebels

March Mil.

Moscow old guard fails to rally mass allegiance

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

HE former Soviet Union's for a predominantly comefeated communists, whose ans to reconvene the old arliament and resurrect the nion had drawn panicked arnings from the Russian sthorities, held a peaceful emonstration in Moscow ist night in an attempt to wive their cause. But even as ne dignified strains of the oviet national anthem eched across Manezh square to ne Kremlin walls, few can ave believed that it was not or the last time.

No more than 30,000 eople turned out. The rganisers had hoped for at east 100,000. In a strikingly auccessful security operation. he police — although de-ployed in thousands — left the square and surrounding streets to the demonstrators.

There were isolated scuffles when some over zealous Yeltsin supporters came on the scene with Russian tricolours, and a bunch of young selfstyled anarchists with painted faces were chased from the crowd, who yelled "provoca-tion" and "drug addicts" at them. But, despite anticipa-tion of bloodshed by both sides, there were no more

serious incidents. Organisers and participants seemed to sense that the limelight was theirs for only a little longer. When the "popular assembly" was de-clared open, the cheers were distinctly thin. A forest of hands approved a perfunc-tory agenda, but a titter of laughter accompanied the announcement of the final item: selection of national leaders. In a new departure

munist rally, a priest intoned a blessing as a wreath was laid at the adjacent tomb of the unknown soldier. Amen, chanted the communists.

In their final hour, the once-unchallenged communists have produced some fi-ery orators. The Russian gov-ernment were castigated as "looters of the people's wealth" whose policy was determined by the International Monetary Fund, not by the welfare of the workers.

There was applause for the irrepressible Sazhi Umalatova, fresh from her candle-lit election as chairman of the day's countryside congress, and sympathy when she re-counted the difficulties en-countered. There was applause, too, when another speaker called for one million signatures to start the impeachment of President Yeltsin and demanded that Mikhail Gorbachev be put on trial for treason.

But these demands were no more than the ritual babbling of a movement in its dotage. Yesterday supplied proof that the former Soviet Union is becoming become a collection of "normal" countries, where the insupportable ideal of communism attracts a committed minority, where a past national anthem can be played in public without being treated as a threat to the order of the state, and where a hardline military jun-ta can be nominated in public and not taken seriously.

Farmyard politics, page 1 Leading article, page 15

by the rebels. This is denied

by the rebels and civilians in

Zugdidi, who say they were burnt when their headquar-ters caught fire last week.

According to the townspec-

ple, the national guard's rule in Zugdidi since the January

was a brutal one. People al-

lege widespread looting and beatings and several killings.

The agreement says that the rebel forces in Zugdidi would have the right to "con-

tinue their struggle by political means". Most inhabit-

ants recognised Dr Gamsa

khurdia, not Mr Shevard-

nadze, as the legal president. Mr Shevardnadze has prom-

ised elections by September, but Dr Gamsakhurdia has

denounced these as illegal

and called for a boycott.

Although the effect of the agreement is to make Mingrelia a seml-independent re-

gion, leaders of the revolt say

this was not their intention

and they are aiming for a restoration of the legitimate government in all Georgia. Mingrelians and Geor-

gians speak related but mutu-ally incomprehensible

languages, but Mingrelians — like Dr Gamsakhurdia

himself — have always identi-

fied closely with the Georgian

nation. Nonetheless National

Guardsmen have reportedly been insulting local people in ethnic terms. This is likely to strengthen the hands of the

local military authorities

have the undivided support of

the local population.

Tbilisi reaches deal with rebels

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN ZUGDIDI

FORCES loyal to Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the deposed president, are close to wresting the Georgian region of Mingrelia - Dr Gamsakhur-dia's birthplace - from the control of the provisional govagreement carry yestere tween representatives of the rebels and the Georgian State Council, which was later ratified by the state council.

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According to the agreement signed in Zugdidi, Georgian National Guard forces. which have been massing for an attack on the ancient Mingrelian capital, are to be withdrawn from Mingreia and returned to their bases. The rebel forces are to remain in the area as part of the national guard, but their leaders said they in fact would be independent of orders from Tbilisi. The Georgian police will handle criminal

matters in the region. The state council ratified



after a personal intervention by Eduard Shevardnadze, the new head of state, against the wishes of the paramilitary leaders whose coup in January brought him to power. One, Djabar Yosseliani, argued that he had already made an agreement with the pro-Gamsakhurdia forces in Zugdidi a month ago, but they had broken it.

There were some suggestions yesterday that armed elements in Zugdidi may be prepared to reject the agreement and go on fighting for the restoration of Dr Gamsakhurdia as president.

More important than ratification by the state council will be acceptance of the agreement by the national guard. As the state council delegates returned from Zugdidi to Khobi after the talks. they were surrounded by national guardsmen who said they would not under any circumstances withdraw, but would attack in order to rescue comrades taken prisoner last week. According to the agreement, these will be released as soon as the govern-

ment troops are withdrawn. Georgian television has alleged that six prisoners were tortured and burnt to death

Soyuz trio takes off to relieve spaceman

BY NICK NUTTALL

THE ordeal of Sergei Krikaley, the cosmonaut stranded on the Mir space station by budget cuts, is now nearing its end after a Soyuz spacecraft lifted off faultlessly from Baikonur, Kazakhstan, yesterday. On board the three-man

Soyuz TM 14 rocket, the first manned mission since the formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States, are a fee-paying Ger-man and two Russian cosmonauts' who will replace Mr Krikalev, an engineer, and his commander, Aleksandr Volkov.

Next Wednesday, Mr Krikalev will clamber aboard the return capsule after ten months of spartan living and memories which include waiting nervously for. supply rockets, learning of riots at the cosmodrome in the weeks before the launch, and almost losing his commander during a space walk. Around three hours later he should come to earth in the deserts of central Asia, returning to a country which did not exist when he blasted off on what should have been a trip lasting four or five

At yesterday's launch, the generals hurried from a platform to watch the 48-metre (160-foot) Soyuz thunder upward on a column of flame through 4 blue sky. Despite the demise of the Soviet Union, the sleek white rocket was still emblazoned with the red flag and "CCCP" insignia that have adorned every capsule since Sputnik, the satellite that jolted the West out of its technological com-

placency 35 years ago.
Russian officials hope that
yesterday's launch will attract more foreign investment or future joint missions
to help finance the mighty
space complex that was once communism's spoiled child. Life on earth, in the space city of Leninsk, has become hard and could get worse

without funding.

The entire population of 100,000, linked directly or indirectly to the space programme, waits in hope that this week's summit of the 11

Moldavian authorities and

leaders of the ethnic Russian

community agreed to a

ceasefire in the Dnestr region

fighters to end hostilities.

vesterday and called on their

The two sides said they

wanted to negotiate a peace-

ful end to the conflict, Tass

reported. At least six people

were killed and several

wounded when fresh clashes

broke out earlier vesterday

between Moldavians and eth-

nic Russians in the Dnestr

region in eastern Moldavia.

Leaders of the Russian-speak-

ing community in the self-

proclaimed republic of Duestr had warned of the

possibility of civil war after

Since 'renewed fighting

broke out on Saturday, at

least 20 people have been killed and 60 have been wounded, according to

sources on both sides. Before

the announcement of a

ceaselire, President Snegur of

Moldavia told a closed ses-

sion of parliament that he

would do everything possible

to stop the lighting. A television report also said that

Boris Pyankov, deputy com-

the latest clashes.



Change of shift: Aleksandr Viktorenko, top, Aleksandr Kaleri, and Klaus-Dietrich Flade, as they prepare to leave Baikonur yesterday

members of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Kiev will finally agree on their future.
The German cosmonaut.

air force officer Klaus-Dietrich Flade, and the two other Soyuz cosmonauts, Alexandr Viktorenko and Alexandr Kaleri, are due to link up with Mir - workhorse of the space pro-

Moldavia agrees ceasefire

with rebel mini-republic

An eleventh-hour

accord reached

yesterday has

apparently averted

the threat of

civil war in Dnestr

mander-in-chief of the Com-

monwealth of Independent

States army, was in the Dnestr capital of Tiraspol for

talks. The army is reportedly

seeking to withdraw its esti-

mated 10,000 troops from

the breakaway region.
The latest fighting ap-

peared to have been started

by separatists, taking the of-

fensive before a Moldavian

ultimatum to surrender or

"face the use of force" expired

at 4pm London time yester-

day. The ultimatum was is-

sued after the weekend

clashes, the worst since

Dnestr voted to secede from

of 600,000, is mostly Slavic,

while Moldavia has a strong

ethnic Romanian majority

Dnestr, with a population

Moldova in December.

gramme and the only permanently staffed orbital space station — on Thursday. Holm Kilbert, a spokesman for the German space agency in Bonn, said Herr Flade would be involved in 14 experiments including ones to monitor pressure behind the eyes and the blood

Mr Krikalev and his com-

will unite with Romania, which controlled all its terri-

tory except for Dnestr before

Moldavia is unwilling to

give up Dnestr, formerly part

of Ukraine, because it is eco-

nomically valuable and has a

sizeable ethnic Romanian mi-

Bake: Cyrus Vance, the United Nations special envoy, arrived yesterday in Baku, the

capital of Azerbaijan, and

said he did not intend to

mediate the dispute between

Armenia and Azerbaijan over

might say I am here solely on a fact-finding mission," he

Mr Vance said he was sent

to the Caucasus region of the

former Soviet Union by the UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali to

meet officials here, and then

would report back to him at

Battles continued yesterday

between Armenian and Azer-

baijani militants in the dis-

puted region 1,300 miles

southeast of Moscow. (AP)

the beginning of next week.

Nagorno-Karabakh.

nority of about 200,000.

the second world war.

mander will return to an uncertain future on earth. Mr Kaleri told a news conference before the launch that he thought his colleague might have trouble coping with new conditions in what had been, on his departure, the Soviet Union. Flade rejected suggestions that political upheavals back home could affect safety.

Bishops' poll guide criticised

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS

SOCIALIST and Liberal party leaders yesterday accused the Catholic church of interference in the Italian election campaign after the bishops issued eight "command-ments" urging the faithful to raily around the embattled Christian Democrat party. The Christian Democrat

party newspaper, Il Popolo, published verbaum the eight precepts that were presented by Dionigi Tettamanzi at the end of a meeting of the per-manent council of the bishops' conference. The church has issued similar appeals for "Catholic unity" but it was believed to be the first time that ecclesiastical authorities have intervened publicly after an electoral campaign has

officially started. The bishops' statement outraged Bettino Craxi, the So-cialist leader. "The bishops are interfering in the election campaign," Signor Craxi said. "This is a country that as an overall majority does not

men, smoking, drinking, and bartering away the long workless days. They still receive 80 per cent of their alary, but inflation is racing

now in Albania." Sure enough, a couple of

scraggy ewes had liberated themselves from the flocks in the fields flanking the landing strip and were tugging at grass in the runway verge oblivious to flight 458 from

airport is rather like leaving the womb. One minute a fastidious stewardess with a satin bow in her hair is expressing the fervent wish that you will travel with her again. The next, a dwarfish official with dandruff cascading onto his frayed blue uniform is at the bottom of the steps demanding to see passports before disembarkation. This is all the more curious when one considers that Albania's main problem is not people trying to sneak in but clamouring to get out.

Neither party can offer a remedy for Albania's prob-lems, the result of decades of self-imposed isolationism and neglect. But the Democrats at east represent change and a new set of faces, psychological



Murphy's law gives humorist £88,000

AT THE end of a four-year court battle with serious implications for the way Hollywood does business, a Los Angeles judge has awarded \$150,000 (£88,000) to Art Buchwald, the humorist, and \$750,000 to Alain Bernheim, his partner, as compensation for providing Columbia with the idea for the hit Eddie Murphy film, Coming to America. They were to receive a share of the profits for their script, King for a Day. The 1988 film earned \$150 million in gross sales but, thanks to the arcane accounting used by Holly-wood, Columbia insisted it made no profit. The writers

had sought \$6.2 million.

A former boxing champion has been appointed Keeper of the Queen's racing pigeons. Carlo Napolitano, aged 50, will run new lofts to be built at Sandringham. Mr Napolitano, an amusement-machine supplier and former Eastern Counties boxing champion, will look after the Queen's flock of about 100 pigeons; his predecessors kept the birds at their homes, "I will breed, train and race the Queen's pigeons, and hope to she has had with them over

Sir John Hall, chairman of Newcastle United, is providing 1,000 tons of soil from the grounds of his home at Wynyard Hall for Durham county cricket club's Test-standard wicket at its planned £45 million headquarters at Chesterle-Street, it was revealed yesterday. Don Robson, the chairman, said yesterday: The best soil for a new wicket is clay-based loam and that is what Sir John is giving us."

The film star Charlton Heston has joined the battle to save the former home of the pioneering Victorian photographer Julia Margaret Cameron. Builders intend to demolish the house at Freshwater, Isle of Wight, to make way for a block of flats in spite of protests. The group trying to save Cameron House from the bulldozers has been given the chance to buy the building by the developers and is trying to raise more than £200,000. Heston is to help contact American fans of the

boosts to a worn and insecure

The country's infrastruc-

ture has all but disintegrated.

Some 70 per cent of the popu-

lation is without full-time em-

ployment. The streets of Tir-

ana are filled with wandering

weekend that his men no

Turkish

blast caused

population.

Ballot offers no way out for Albania's ills

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN TIRANA

THE dapper Albanian businessman in the next seat had hist finished his complimentary champagne and packed away most of his in-flight meal as a present for the family. As the plane shuddered to a stop on the potholed tarmac, he pointed out of the window. "Sheeps," he said mournfully. "Sheeps on the runway. There is no order

ahead of income. In some cities where distribution even of bread has broken down, hungry mobs have stormed food shops. The chief of the Tirana police admitted last longer had control over the

Being disgorged from the daily Swissair flight at Tirana

In the run-up to Sunday's election, the country is blighted by food shortages, unemployment, and spiralling violent crime. Few now doubt that the Democratic party led by Sali Berisha, a founder member of the main opposition in 1990, will wrest control from the Socialist party. which is considered too involved with the communist past to be credible.

by police

Istanbul: Ismet Sezgin, the Turkish Interior minister, sponsible for a series of explo-sions that yesterday damaged the Istanbul headquarters of their political bureau (Andrew Finkei writes).

Two policemen died in the blast which, according to official sources, happened while experts were trying to render harmless bombs which had been taken to the anti-terrorist squad for disposal. The government acted quickly to disclaim speculation that the bombs had been planted by Kurdish separatist groups.

Mr Sezgin's statement did not make clear what the police were doing with unex-ploded bombs in their building and why they were keeping them in an annexe right next to the petrol pumps used to supply police vehicles

Reporters' toll

New York: Sixty-six journalists in 17 countries were killed on duty last year, with the civil war in Yugoslavia alone claiming the lives of 19 re-porters, the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists said. (Reuter).

Activist dies

Copenhagen: A bomb killed an activist, aged 29, at the headquarters of the left-wing Internationale Socialister The blast was the first fatal attack since the second world war on a political organis-ation in Denmark. (AFP)

Race questions

Stockholm: Police at the airport questioned Robert Faurisson, the French historian who claims the Nazi extermination of Jews is a myth, before letting him into Swe-den, where it is a crime to incite ethnic hatred. (Reuter)

Navy's last call

Manila: American ships have docked for the last time at the US Navy's Subic base in the Philippines, which is to close later this year. Continued American access to Cubi Point naval air station is being considered this week.

Keating attack Melbourne: Paul Keating the prime minister, has again criticised Britain over its war record. Denying "pom bash-ing", he said: "Our sacrifice in world war one for Britain

was not reciprocated in kind

in world war two." (AP)

Might of Le Pen assails election-fatigued Marseilles



Fighting talk: Bernard Tapie, the Socialistaligned opponent to Jean-Marie Le Pen

NO CITY in France has more of an appetite for street politics than Marseilles, but the final flurry of campaigning for next Sunday's regional elections is wearing the locals down.

At least 30 meetings were scheduled yesterday as candidates across the political spectrum and pressure groups from feminists to the hunting, shooting and fishing lobby put in one last effort to pick up support. Canvassers armed with leaflets lurked on every street corner and opinion pollsters roamed the supermarkets. clipboards poised. What have local people

done to deserve this, especially in an election where the rate of abstention seems certain to exceed the winning party's share of the

vote? The answer lies, of are profoundly indifferent, course, with Jean-Marie Le most notably to established parties. Pen, who many months ago selected the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region as the point of departure in a personal crusade that he truly

FROM PHILIP JACONSON IN MARSEILLES

believes will end one day in the presidential palace. M Le Pen views the regional contest as a curtainraiser for next year's Socialists, and the furious parliamentary elections: the object of the present exercise is to establish the National Front as a viable mainstream party and himself as a leader of national stature.

At his final rally on Mon- swept out onto his transday night, stage-managed to perfection like those before it, his theme was that "the eyes of France are fixed upon Marseilles". True: almost everywhere else, voters been so disgusted with tra-

What M Le Pen under-

drawn here to cover him, is that the front's campaign is newsworthy. The vicious slanging matches with Bernard Tapie, his chief opponent who is aligned with the assaults on Edith Cresson's government of "crooks and gangsters", gleefully repeated after she initiated legal action to restrain him, are

Every time M Le Pen has

stands, as do journalists

central to his strategy.

portable electoral platform to the slaves's chorus from Verdi's Nabucco, he is presenting himself to a national constituency that has rarely

ditional politics. If that means toning down the cru-dity of his racial message and soft-pedalling on the more brutal aspects of the party's immigration policies, so be it. During his final rally here,

a few thousand people as-sembled to demonstrate abhorrence of everything he represents. A black student recalled that Margeilles had rudely rejected M Le Pen when he gave them the opportunity to send him to parliament in the 1988 general election, but his support in the region now is estimated at nearly 30 per cent.

Protests and violence have accompanied his campaign. Yesterday in Paris a bomb blasted the gates of the Zenith concert hall before a rally he held there.

Clinton for the White House

The Democratic challenger can beat

Bush, writes Conor Cruise O'Brien

vernor Clinton has a good T chance of becoming the next president of the United States. He will almost certainly win the Democratic nomination. It is being said that he is vulnerable to a renewed outbreak of scandal. What he has shown, however, is that he is capable of recovering quickly from the wounds of scandal, even benefiting from the accusations through name-recognition factor. When Mr Clinton's name is mentioned nobody any longer asks

It is possible that some future scandal will remove him, but if so it will have to be a juicy one, and above all fresh. Another item out of the governor's past is unlikely to do the trick. If it is shown that he slept (in the past) not merely with A, but also with B or even C, the probable effect will be boredom rather than shock. You would have to have an incident on the campaign trail, as in the case of Gary

Hart. But Mr Clinton is not in the least like Mr Hart. who was a political suicide. He was womanising during his campaign lenged dared the media to follow him around. Nobody who knows anything about Mr Clinton believes him to be capable of behaving like that. He wants to be elected.

People on this side of the Atlantic are inclined to underestimate Mr

Clinton. This is partly because of a British (and European) tendency to disparage all American poli-ticians. Partly it is due to Mr Clinton's campaign style: folksy, populist: that big grin. Partly it is an effect of the sex scandal, with rumours of others. All this has created a vague impression that the governor is a lightweight. He is nothing of the kind.

Clinton: his appeal across

racial barriers is the key

Bill Clinton is an intellectual, though he has sense enough to disguise the fact on the hustings. His wife, Hillary, is a most formidable intellectual: a leading authority in the United States both on the laws as they affect women and on the laws as they affect children. She is also a good hand at crisis management, as she demonstrated on television.

Mr Clinton himself is a highly effective politician who appears to have solved the racial dilemma that has bedevilled the Democrats for more than a decade. Their difficulty is: how can you hold on to black votes without espousing policies that cause you to lose so many white votes that you lose everything? ivir Clinton is the Leadership Council and its thinktank, the Progressive Policy Institute. He is the candidate, that is to say, of the right of centre of the Democratic party: the choice of those who want the party to refrain from wooing blacks by offering policies that lose white votes. Obviously the danger, in following the prescription of the Democratic Leadership Council, is that the Democrats will lose the black votes they also need if they are going to recover the presidency. This is where Mr Clinton comes in. In his own state, Arkansas, Mr Clinton has demonstrated his

capacity to win and hold both black and white votes. That capacity won the governor the influen-tial support of the party's leadership council for his presidential campaign. The question remained whether what worked in Arkansas would work in other states. By this stage in his campaign Mr Clinton has triumphantly demonstrated that it does. Throughout the south, and also in the great cities of the north, he has demonstrated that he can win black votes without saying things that frighten off whites. Mr Clinton is therefore the answer to the prayers of the Democratic party. and seems set to be their nominee. But can he then go on to beat George Bush? That will probably

depend on whether the recession

lifts. If it is still hurting come November, I believe Mr Clinton will beat Mr Bush. Many Americans blame Mr Bush personally for the recession, and if he is not seen to have got rid of it, they are going to get rid

This will be the election since 1948 not to be fought with an awareness of a Soviet threat in background. The effect of the removal of the Soviet threat is likely to lower the value of being the presidential in-

cumbent. The factor of people wanting to stay behind our leader as he faces the foreign enemy is gone. Mr Bush is said to be contemplating a recovery of the factor by attacking Iraq. This would probably not work. Desert Storm was good for Mr Bush's popularity, but that does not mean that Son of Desert Storm would have a similar effect. Why, after all, should it be necessary? Why did Mr Bush stop Desert Storm if Saddam Hussein is such a danger to the United States? Mr Bush has no satisfactory answer. The truthful answer is the State Department's advice: "We need a strong Iraq." But that can hardly be trotted out if the president has just gone to war with Iraq for the second time. So probably nothing can save Mr Bush, except an end to the recession before November.
Otherwise (and barring a juicy, fresh scandal) it is going to be Mr

Clinton. I hope so. I should like to see a president with a decent, sane record on race relations replacing a president who used some coded appeals to racial ill-feeling to get himself elected in 1988. than race relations? There are, but I see no reason to believe that Mr Bush is better at any of them. Mr Clinton is more intelligent and has a host of wise and well-informed

tens of thousands of middle class voters disaffected, and in some cases all but ruined, by the government's economic mismanagement. friends, as The Wall Street Jour Previous Labour governments. nai has shown. In the matter of for all their faults, showed that a race relations Mr Clinton towers compassionate society did not have to be ruinously expensive for the middle class. But instead of over Mr Bush. His presence in the White House would have a healtrying to make socialism compatiing value for America. It would ble with individual advancement, also tend to improve race relations in the rest of the world. Mr Smith has deliberately created

Kingsley Amis thinks the old have as much right to misbehave as the young, says Philip Howard

old age is something that the British have grown peculiarly bad at since the Glad to be grey Tebbit, Roy Jenkins and Barbara

Sixties. Other nations revere the old as wise, or endure them as everlasting presidents, or adore them as live in childminders and household comforters. We bang them coldly away in Stalag-79s to die, out of sight, out of mind, in case they embarrass us by their memento mori that to this favour we must all come. Or we builty them with bossy social services. And we patronise them with dreadful sentimentality. If at the age of 90 you can eat a fish finger with a fork in England, they think you deserve a Nobel prize and squeal at you on the soppy Esther Rangen show. If you survive to your century, you get a telegram from the Queen. And yet the old are people like the rest of us. Any fool can grow old. All you have to do is live long enough. In Britain growing old is like being increasingly penalised for some crime you

have not committed. This month we are bringing the old out of the closet and discussing the unmentionable topic of old age. Veteran politicians such as Denis Healey and Norman

Castle, pop up continually on our television screens to comment on the election, being put through their hoops by that trascible old buffer in the bow tie. Robin Day. They do it with a style and pungency undreamt of in the bland marketing men's charm of And television sitcom and dra-

ma have become much concerned with age from Till Death Us Do Part to One Foot In The Grave. On Monday night the first of three episodes of Kingsley Amis's The Old Devils was screened, the last blast of the trumpet of the elderly against the monstrous regiment of youth. The programme can also be interpreted as an awful warning against the demon drink. ldom a scene flits by without litres of cheap Italian wine being sunk by the women, and assorted stiff brownies and other spirits being swilled by the old boys. Alternatively it can be viewed as a

of wearers of the disgusting Garrick Club tie, a bilious mixture of avocado and smoked salmon, and also as a disobliging commentary on the Welshness of the Welsh: a ghastly leitmotif of never say Dai. But the main message of the book and the programme is that the old have as much right as the young to behave badly. It is Juvenalian, not jolly. A lot of people do not like this theme, finding it unrelentingly bleak. The English are uncomfortable with

happen to be at present.
When The Old Devils won the Booker Prize in 1986, Amis turned up at Guildhall in black tie and brown brogues because he could no longer squeeze his feet into his patent-leather half-boots. One of the concealed blessings of

old age: Amis is furious about it.

always .15 years older than you

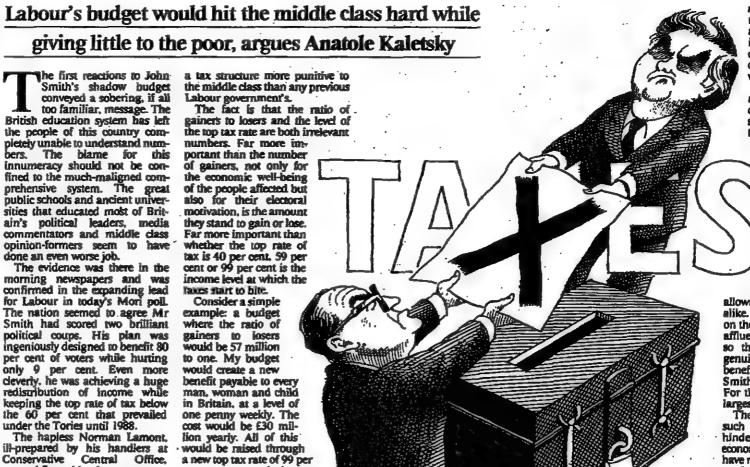
embarrassed about how you look. He was seated next to an unknown middle-aged American female whom he took to be be a Booker attachment. This was tactless placement, though even the Archangel Gabriel would have been a testing neighbour for Amis in the circumstances. After the woman had pestered him for some time about whether he minded her smoking, and whether she could give him a cigarette, she asked: Isn't there anything I can do to please you?" and frightened, and funny for those with strong nerves. The sensible attitude is that old age is

On Sir Kingsley's lips trembled the retort: "Actually, there is — you see that opening at the far end of the room there, that's called a door, and you can please me no end by going through it and staying out." He claims, unpersuasively, that he is far too nice and cowardly to have said anything so rude. But in his factional hymn of comic bile to gerontocracy, the rude life is all there. In one except perhaps the lucky ones.

of the funniest scenes in the first episode, the unveiling of a pseud modern sculpture to a professional welshing poet thinly disguised under the name of Brydan, Amis gets his own back on Dylan Thomas, whom he considers a very bad poet indeed: "False, sentimentalising, melodramatising. sensationalising. ingratiating.

Another advantage of old age is that one can say what one thinks without fussing about what is culturally correct. It is not necessary to be as grumpy about the inevitable process as Kingsley Amis. Few can be as blackly and tastelessly comic about such things as the humiliations of the flesh and the chilly Atlantic of the double bed, for those who can take black comedy on these forbidden subiects. It is a welcome sign of rude life, to quote Amis's least favourite poet, that he can rage, rage against the dying of the light in such an entertaining way. Give them a bit of time, and the English may come to treat their old, as well as women, and Jews, and blacks, as human beings. They had better, since old age is coming to us all -

Where pips will squeak



from my budget. The only loser would be the Duke of Westminster, who would pay the new 99 per cent tax - and he is not Now consider the widely quoted budget analysis by the Institute of Fiscal Studies. The IFS confirmed er cení of tam gain from Labour, and that 48 per cent would gain more from Mr

dumbstruck on Tuesday night. Now take a closer look at the figures. The IFS shows that for every category of employed taxpayer - whether single or married, whether with children or without - there is actually an average net loss from Mr Smith's budget

· Smith's losers the costs are potenrelative to Mr Lamont's. Yet the IFS figures also show more gainers than losers under Labour for nearly all family categories. How can this be? The Conservatives, who seem no contrast, the losses mount very

more competent in running the election campaign than managing the economy, have been stumpe for an answer. Yet the touth is in the IFS analysis for all to see. . For most of Labour's gainers. the benefits are paltry, but for Mr

above £1,000. This analysis raises a fundamental question. Does it make sense to take very large sums of money

away from a relatively small number of people on moderately high incomes to finance imperceptibly small handouts to tens of millions of others who are slightly less

This question requires mor-al, economic and political discussion, a discussion that should dominate the next three weeks of electioneering if the British political

class ever catches on. The moral point is whether it is necessary or desirable to help the poor through universal benefits that recycle vast amounts of money from the affluent to the slightly less well off. All of the redistribution announced by Mr Smith was untargeted Child bene-

fits, pensions and tax allowances go to rich and poor alike. Assuming there is any limit on the money to be taken from the affluent, the policy of spreading it so thinly leaves little for those genuinely in need. The average benefit for single parents from Mr Smith's proposals is £1.74 a week. For the unemployed, Mr Smith's largesse is worth 53p.

The economic issue is whether such redistribution will help or hinder recovery. It is a tenet of economics that big, sudden changes have more impact on demand than ensure a collapse in demand for the goods, houses and services bought by the middle class. The almost invisible gains to the rest of society are unlikely to compensate by stimulating their spending, at least

Finally, there is politics. Labour strategists seem genuinely to think they may sway the 48 per cent of etalehli volets who will benefil more from Mr Smith's budget than Mr Lamont's. But will gains of 85p week really motivate voters? Certainly not as much as the very large losses suffered by the middle class. There may be far fewer affluent families, but in the South-East particularly they could have a crucial impact on the election. For when voters find their living standards needlessly threatened, they may turn out to be more numerate than the chattering classes.

...and moreover

have just sent the Buddha a tenner. It seemed the least I

As a matter of fact, it was the least I could do. I shall explain this later. Until then, you could think about it. The meditation will be good for you. Indeed, you might find it so good for you that, after a bit, you will feel like sending the Buddha a tenner, too. I am of course simplifying the contemplative process a bit, but then I am new to the game. At least, as far as I know I am: given its reincarnative element, I may well have been a Buddhist last time round, which could explain why I am currently taking to it like a duck to water. Unless I was a duck last time round, which could also explain it.

Where was I? Ah, yes (it's amazing what a bit of a hum with the eyes shut will do). I was about to offer you my best wishes for the Year of the Male Water Monkey. It has just begun, as I discovered this morning when I received a greetings card to that effect from Akong Tulku Rinpoche, the Abbot of Samye Ling. Samye Ling is on Eskdalemuir. Scotland never ceases to surprise me. If I become more of a Buddhist, mind, it will surprise me less and less, because every-thing will, that is the way of Buddhism, but it's a small price

to pay. I feel. It's the first time I've had a New Year's card from a Buddhist abbot. That alone would have been enough to start me

turning the card over to find out what the picture on the front was and discovering that it was a view of the Clyde sponsored by Aerofilms of Borehamwood showing Holy Island, a small green blister, and part of the Isle of Arran off which it lies. Given all this, the mind thrummed: contemplating. I had got as far as wondering whether the Aerofilm pilot was a Buddhist. too, also had he flown all the way to Arran from Borehamwood without refuelling, it's a long pull in a Cessna, say four hours, you'd have to take sandwiches, were Buddhists vegetarians, did they drink, what did a pilot do when he was up there and the need for a bit of a meditate came over him ... I'd got this far. I say, when I noticed that the

envelope was not yet empty. I shook it out and found a daily timetable from Samye Ling explaining when they had meditation (8am) and when they had soup (6pm), a note from Chris Bonnington, and a letter from the abbot which, as you would expect, suddenly made all the disparate elements fall into place with astonishing clarity. He wanted £169,000.

If he gets it, he will buy Holy Island for a retreat. Holy Island was dead right, he explained, because it had been sanctified by the intense contemplation carried out there in the 6th century by St Molaise. I sought St Molaise in my Penguin Dictionary of Saints but he wasn't there, so I phoned The Tablet. contemplating, never mind They had never heard of him.

but promised to phone back leaving me free to contemplate Chris Bonnington's note, which was made up of little boxes numbered from £10 to £The sky, with a rider to the effect that donations of over £600 would enable the Buddha to reciain tax on the donation. I was still meditating on this when The Tablet rang back to say that St Molaise normally traded under the name of St Lasdarian. He had died in 639, after voluntarily accepting an illness composed of 30 different diseases, thus gaining exemption

seemed floored by these apparent-

ly incontrovertible statistics. Alan Beith was reduced to spluttering about Labour's need for more

radicalism. Mr Smith clearly felt

he had all but won the election. Yet

anyone with a head for numbers

could readily have seen that Lab-

our had given an immense hos-

tage to fortune. In fact, Mr Smith

may have thrown away Labour's

from Purgatory.

A bizarre deal, which made my contemplation veer away from Chris and tax, because I was stunned to hear they had discovered 30 diseases by 639. I tried working out how many diseases we have now, and only got as far as 23. After that, I began meditating on why Chris and the abbot had selected me as a potential punter. The package probably cost about £4 to produce, including postage, and they were after only £169,000, it couldn't have been worth spending more than — what? — £4,000, how did they decide that I should be one of the 1,000 chosen out of a population of 60

It was at this point that I sent them the cheque. Which, yes, proved they had got it right. Clearly, the Buddha knew a thing or two about human nature. He had sussed that a whole day of entirely novel meditation had to be worth a tenner of anybody's money.

Manifesto meteor

IF THE electorate delivers a favourable verdict on the Tory manifesto, to be unveiled this morning, much of the credit will go to an unknown 31-year-old Cambridge graduate who first met John Major at a Chelsea football match.

a new top tax rate of 99 per

cent on annual incomes

above £100 million. Every

voter in Britain would benefit

Smith's proposals than from Mr

Lamont's. These were the figures

that left all Conservative apologists

Jonathan Hill, plucked from the obscurity of the Downing Street policy unit only last week to become the prime minister's political secretary. immediately became one of three key figures in the writing of the final draft of the Tory blueprint. The trio, known in Tory circles as the "élite team". saw Hill lining up alongside Sarah Hogg, head of the unit, and Nicholas True, a fellow member who has written most of the prime minister's speeches on the Citizen's Charter. The threesome have worked in Downing Street rewriting the 30,000-word document round the clock since Major announced the election.

Hill, who will be by Major's side throughout the campaign, has overnight become one of the most rapidly rising Tory stars. He first met Major last year at Stamford

One of the Shortest Spicide notes in history





Bridge when working as a special adviser to Kenneth Clarke, A graduate of Trinity College, he worked in the City before joining Central Office five years ago.

Labour's manifesto, also due this morning, is similarly a composite job. Charles Clarke, the head of Neil Kinnock's office. has been heavily involved, as have frontbench spokesmen in their respective fields. But the key fig-ure, as ever, has been Geoff Bish, party's head of research. One Labour's greatest survivors. Bish has been involved in the writing of every manifesto since 1979, when he publicly lambasted James Callaghan after Labour's defeat for ignoring key left-wing policies. Partly as a result Bish got his own way in 1983 when he persuaded Michael Foot to adopt the manifesto, which swiftly became known as "the longest suicide note in history".

• After being virtually expunged from the last edition of The Conservative Campaign Guide published last year. Mrs. Thatcher is back with a vengeance. The revised 423-page document due to be sent to every Tory candidate this week is littered with reinstated references and quotes from the former leader. It even contains a cheery word from 1.1 rs Thatcher in the foreword designed

to give heart to those Tory candidates who still fear the true faith has been abandoned. The guide also contains another innovation as a result of criticism of the prime minister's all-male cabinet: a 12-page chapter on women's rights.

tially huge. Families with incomes

between £150 and £400 a week

gain an average of 85 pence a

week. For the big losers, by

rapidly, from £3.60 a week at

incomes of £500, to £11 a week

above £600, and £105 a week

Hard times

IAN MAXWELL is finding life hard on the meagre allowance the administrators are allowing him - but that did not prevent him enjoying a convivial supper at the fashionable west London wine bar, "192", at the weekend. His evening was almost spoilt

before it started when he and his

wife Laura unwittingly found themselves seated at a table next to the journalists Simon Freeman and Walter Ellis. They were hardly the pair Maxwell most wanted to meet on a Saturday night out; both had been sacked by the Maxwells from The European last year. "There was a certain awkwardness," says Ellis. "But the ice was soon broken when Simon, who had not even at first recognised

Maxwell, ordered a round of drinks and told the waiter to put them on Ian's bill." Maxwell himself perused the wine list for some time before telling the waiter: "I think just the house white." Clearly the administrators have not been over-generous with the allowance. "Ian looked a bit dishevelled," says Ellis. "He said he missed his

dad and was drained by spending ten hours a day with the lawyers. Maxwell's wife Laura, who hails from Chicago, looked elegant but appeared to have had even greater difficulties in adapting. Ellis says: "She complained bitterly about the way they had been treated by the 'intrusive' British tabloids." She then announced that she and Ian would be leaving Britain for good at the first opportunity.

Old irregulars

LORD CALLAGHAN, Labour's last prime minister, gathered to-gether his old staff from Number Ten last night to celebrate his 80th birthday. The private party at Green's in Westminster drank champagne toasts not only to the former leader's imminent birthday but also to the new Labour team the old-timers hope will take up residency in their old address after April 9.

At least, most of their number did. One exception was Tom McNally, Callaghan's former political adviser, now a leading Liberal Democrat. He was shunned by former colleagues for years after defecting to the SDP but was greeted last night as a long lost brother. But then 13 years is a long time in politics and only one of Callaghan's old team remains closely involved with Labour politics: Jack Cunningham, then Callaghan's PPS, who arrived hotfoot from a meeting of Labour's election high command.

• After the success of the sequel to Gone With the Wind comes the final instalment of Dr Zhivago. some 35 years after Pasternak's novel was first published. The loose ends are to be tied together in Lara's Child by Alexander Mollin, and film rights are already being discussed. Mike Nicholson, senior tutor in Russian at University College Oxford says: Lara disappears, according to the novel, never to be seen again, and the future of her daughter is left dangling. It is the obvious thing to follow their life through the end of Stalinism". In fact the real-life Lara. Olga Ivinskaya. mistress of Pasternak and now in her 80s, still lives in Moscow. Her sojourn in the labour camps surely makes more compelling reading than the strongest fiction.

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BUSINESS TURNED AWAY

When the stockbroker James Capel surveyed 105 top companies last month, 86 per cent thought a Labour victory would be bad for the economy and 63 per cent that it would be bad for their business. Yesterday The Times published a letter from 43 company heads calling for the retention of a government that has revived the spirit of enterprise, barely concealed code for the Tories. The letter invoked the 1970s, "when overseas businessmen were genuinely sorry for you if you happened to be British", as evidence of the harm a Labour government would do to the economy. Today Labour-supporting industrialists reply. Is industry right to fear Labour or is its antipathy no more than a reflex?

Certainly Britain has changed drastically since the 1970s, thanks mainly to Margaret Thatcher. She made Labour realise that fiscal prudence wins votes. Already this election has seen a veritable Dutch auction of budgetary responsibility, albeit in a context of high public borrowing. John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, makes as much of his Scottish frugality as Mrs Thatcher ever did of her Grantham shopkeeper's thrift — and has succeeded in convincing much of the City accordingly. Moreover, with sterling in the European exchange-rate mechanism, no governing party would have the leeway to borrow and spend much more than the Conservatives already plan to do.

In the past 13 years industrialists have often found themselves in opposition to the Tories. The CBI has loudly demanded lower interest rates, as well as more spending on transport infrastructure, tax relief on investment and more support for training, research and development. Labour has been quick to seize the opportunity. Years in opposition have made the party a vehicle for lobbyists disaffected with details of govern-

ment policy.
This week, Mr Smith promised to improve transport, bring in capital allowances for investment and offer seedcorn money for R & D. He would make the jobs of company chairmen safer by stiffening take-over rules. He would spend more on supply-side improvements to education and training. The release of receipts from council house sales would produce a welcome boost to the construction industry.

This is clearly not enough. Central to business's antagonism to Labour is the party's continued devotion to retrograde policy attitudes. The trade unions may have been tamed by Mrs Thatcher, to Mr Kinnock's obvious relief; and Labour's employment spokesman, Tony Blair, is adarnant that he would not unshacide them. Since the unions have no interest in swiftly damaging a Labour government, he may be believed. But Labour remains the party of the unions, is financed by the unions and ultimately must do what unions ask, as Lord Callaghan so painfully found in 1979.

Token of the continued influence of the unions on Labour is the party's commitment to a minimum wage. Goldman Sachs esti-mates that it will directly affect over 15 per cent of employees. And it could have a knockon effect on many more by squeezing

Worse, Labour would entrench such upward pressure on costs by abandoning the central plank of John Major's post-Maastricht European policy: a firm refusal to sign up to the European social charter. Although European cost comparisons are opaque, Britain outside the charter has a chance to close the industrial cost gap on Germany. With it, the gap could be frozen at its present level. With increasing numbers of continental businessmen deploring the impact of EC corporatism, for Britain to embrace such inflexibilities is madness.

The enduring hostility of the business community to Labour will have been exacerbated by Mr Smith's tax proposals. But it is not entirely self-interested. Many still fear that the party would not deliver what it promises. They find it hard to see a party that has really learnt from the mistakes of the 1970s. They fear inflation, higher interest rates and confidence not recovering but continuing to collapse.

In essence, private industry is simply not convinced that Mr Kinnock and his colleagues see the fostering of personal or corporate enterprise as a priority. The words private enterprise still stick in Labour's craw. Mr Kinnock may have backed off from renationalising all the privatised companies, but he shows no wholehearted conversion to free-market capitalism. He does not adhere to the principle of private wealth accumulation as the sine qua non for an efficient capitalist economy. Until he believes in it, he cannot expect business to believe in him.

GREENS AND THE TRUST

Between that quintessentially British institution, the National Trust, and the celebration of its hundredth birthday in 1995 lie two formidable obstacles. Both relate to the recent controversy over hunting. Some time in 1993 a working party on deer hunting will report back to the Trust's council. The issue of a hunting ban, postponed by setting up the working party in 1990, will have to be faced again. Members will also be expecting a report into the Trust's constit

Yesterday's annual report makes clear how important the Trust has become to the management of rural Britain and to the preservation of Britain's natural (and to an extent, architectural) environment. It is the largest private landowner in England, Wales and Northern Ireland - Scotland has its own body - holding some 573,000 acres. Being a sizeable farm landlord with 1,200 tenants, it is deeply affected by the present contraction in farming. With assets worth £343 million the National Trust is no longer in the amateur league.

Trust land is now part of the leisure industry, a primary economic activity in the countryside. How it manages this land will help set a benchmark for country management generally in the next few critical years. With one proviso: the National Trust's constitution is still of horse-and-cart vintage. The business in which it is engaged is rife with single-issue enthusiasms and thus vulnerable to single-issue politics. At the Trust's 1991 annual meeting it was proposed that no resolution should be admitted for debate unless at least 10 per cent of the membership had signified its consent. That was defeated, but subsequently Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, with two members of the

Trust's council, were asked to review the constitution. The possibility of disruption by single-issue enthusiasts, from anti-hunting to vegetarianism, is only part of their remit. The other is the Trust's character as a grass-roots mass-membership organisation.

Twenty years ago the Trust had barely a quarter of a million members. The emphasis in its work was on acquisition and preservation, a conservative philosophy attracting conservative people. Now it is an organisation of more than two million. Some of these are young, eager and radical. They do not just want to preserve, they want to campaign. The National Trust thus risks becoming a battleground between groups whose primary aims and objectives are not the advancement of the Trust's broad aims, but victory over ideological opponents.

A recent editorial in Country Life warned: Trust lands must not be allowed to become a state within a state, operating according to minority-imposed laws which are different from the law imposed by Parliament. So the Trust may need a federal structure of its 16 regions. Members would be able to vote in their regional councils, with national policy made by elected representatives from the regions. That would dilute the impact of single-issue campaigning. The result may be more a network of regional trusts, possibly even with divergent policies. But such phuralism is no bad thing in an ever more centralised nation. Establishing the proper tension between the local and the national is a task that will face every big organisation over the next decade, including the nation itself. But the Trust should hold fast to one principle: that its holdings are always "in trust for the nation".

ANIMAL FARM

The Communists have returned to Orwell's farm. Banned from holding an illegal meeting of the defunct Soviet parliament in Moscow, hardliners from all over the former Soviet Union yesterday repaired to the muddy chaos of a collective dairy farm in Podolsk. There, in the concrete assembly hall lit by torches after the power was turned off, 100 of the hardest of hardliners passed a string of resolutions that would have done credit to their Bolshevik forebears.

Solemnly declaring themselves the "Sixth Congress of People's Deputies," the disparate group, who included the "black colonels" Alksnis and Petrushenko and the renegade dissident Roy Medvedev, elected a praesidium, lambasted former President Gorbachev and read out a prison letter from one of last year's putschists. Then a stern Kremlin call to the bewildered local mayor brought proceedings and the whirt of Japanese film cameras to an abrupt halt. So much for the long-threatened vengeance of the old guard.

President Yeltsin's exiling of the malcontents to a farmyard was a mistake. Who would have paid any attention to their slogan-ridden meanderings had they assembled, with their red flags and portraits of Lenin, in School No 36 of the southwestern Moscow regional district? Have not all revolutionary movements begun in incongruous surroundings?

The French Revolution was hatched on a tennis court. The Levellers met in a Putney church. A table of drinkers in a Munich beer cellar poured out their bitterness with their

liquor and planned the destruction of German democracy after the first world war. The All-Russian Social Democratic Labour party - which split into Bolsheviks and Mensheviks -- were chased out of Brussels by the police and continued their second congress in Tottenham Court Road, while their leaders took to the top decks of London buses, muttering "two nations, two nations."

Venues maketh the myth. The xenophobic Chinese communists first gathered in the foreign-dominated city of Shanghai. The image of the Social Democratic Party was for ever fixed by the environs of David Owen's drawing room in Limehouse. The barons who determined the course of English democracy confronted King John in the waterlogged meadows beside the Thames.

Great issues of war and peace have been settled in the oddest places, trains being a particular favourite. The end of the Great War and the French surrender in 1940 took place in the same carriage. The leaders of South Africa and Zambia discussed the future of southern Africa in a train parked on a bridge over the Victoria Falls.

People remember best what is said and done in bizarre surroundings. British politicians have yet to learn the lesson. Who can recall which party said what, at Bournemouth, Brighton or Blackpool? Future conference organisers could usefully sound out some less conventional sites. The Lib Dems should assemble in an elegant National Trust property. The Tories should plump for anywhere in Essex. And the Labour party should go looking for the end of Wigan Pier.

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Labour's budget proposals and the business interest

and Industry Group

From the Chairman and Deputy

Sir, This group represents some 200

in business, finance and industry.

Like the signatories to your letter

today "Businessmen and the elec-

tion", we too think that British

business should urgently consider

change in government. However, we

The achievements of the "enter-

prise economy" discussed in the letter are considerable, but the cur-

rent recession indicates that they

ended in about 1989. We must move

on, and to do this we have to correct the serious deficiencies which have appeared in our economy and cor-

rect some of the more alarming social effects of the "enterprise econ-

The most serious deficiency is the flood of imports. The "enterprise economy" has not created the manu-

facturing base which is essential to

maintain a high standard of living

Labour's budget and policies

encourage the innovation, training and investment necessary to halt this

slide and reverse it. Without this we

shall have a continuing balance of

payments crisis and be unable to

maintain our position in the Euro-

pean monetary and business union.

omy" has not provided the public services and infrastructure which

industry needs to be successful. The

crumbling deterioration is obvious to

us all and we and our employees

The "enterprise economy" will never survive in a society lacking in

social justice and quite simply this

government has got the require-ments of social justice and industrial

progress out of balance. Labour's

Secondly, the "enterprise econ-

for all of us in this country.

omy" on our country.

come to a different conclusion.

Chairman of the Labour Finance

From Lord Hollick and others

Sir. As business people we would like to welcome the innovative and prudent budget presented by the Labour party. It sets the framework within which a real recovery out of recession

can at last begin.

We particularly welcome the provision of capital allowances which will provide a substantial incentive to bring investment forward this year. We also welcome the new programmes for training and for the construction industry, and the initia-tive in transport. All these are measures for which business has been calling for months.

The redistribution of income from the top 10 per cent to everyone else will provide a welcome net boost to overall demand in the economy. The Labour party has indicated its commitment to industry and to longthis country desperately needs.

The above reflects our personal views and not necessarily those of the companies with which we are associated as chairmen, chief executives, or in other capacities.

Yours sincerely,

ALAN AIKIN, JARVIS ASTAIRE, DOUANNE ALEXANDER-MOORE, LES BROER, CARMEN CALLIL RAY CARTER, CHARLES CAVANAGH, DEREK CLEE, BARRY DELANEY, ROB DONELLY, DAVID EVANS, DENIS FORMAN, GERALD FRANKEL LYNNE FRANKS,

DAVID GOLDSTONE, GREGSON GERRY GULLIVER, PAUL HAMLYN, PHILIP HUGHES, MICHAEL KELLY, H. KUMAR AMIN MARFANL SARAH MACAULEY. EDWARD McCAULEY. MARTIN METAGUE,

MICHAEL MONTAGUE, BARRY MUNDAY, BRIAN OAKLEY, JOHN NORTON, SWRAJ PAUL, KIM PENDREY, JOSEPH PICCIONI. DAVID PITT-WATSON, JOHN PREVERT. NAT PURI, RICHARD RAMAGE, DORIS SAATCHI, TONY SMITH, House of Lords.

Turks and Armenians

Sir, Your editorial, "Levering for peace" (March 13), failed adequately to highlight the belligerent policy of the Turkish government towards Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

Far from being an impartial party

to the conflict. Turkey may be one of

the chief obstacles to peace. Indeed Turkey is already exploiting the conflict to defiand a corridor linking the Azerbaijani-controlled enclave of

Nakhichevan, inside Armenia, to

Azerbaijan proper. This demand is additional proof that Turkey is

pursuing pan-Turkish expansionist

Armenians only ask that human rights and self-determination of the

Armenian majority in Nagorno-

It would appear from your edi-

torial that Western appeasement of

Turkish aggressiveness is based on

"Ankara (being) poised to play a vital

role (in) encouraging secular democracy in Central Asia". In so doing, however, the West may, for the second time this century, be blamed

for tolerating crimes of genocide against the Armenians, similar to the

one carried out by the Turkish gov-

ernment between 1915 and 1922.

Yours faithfully, GARO BERBERIAN (Armenian

Karabakh are defended.

Prom Mr Garo Berberian

policies move to correct this. The most conclusive proof of misrule is From Mr Ian J. Bowlet

Sir, For you to suggest that Nakhichevan or Nagorno-Karabakh could be vacated in a compromise deal is to fly in the face of history and current fact. Nagorno-Karabakh never was Armenian. Access to Nakhichevan, a perfectly legitimate and undisputed province of Azerbatian, has been denied by the Armenians.

You mention the danger of Turkey becoming embroiled. One must remember that Azerbaijan is in many ways historically and culturally closer to Iran and there are 12 million brother Azeri Shiftes living south of the Araks river. The res danger is from the Turks in Trans-

Azerbaijan has shown great forbearance in refusing offers of military aid from those quarters but in the face of trate public opinion may not be able to do so for much

A refusal to recognise the legiti-macy of the Azerbaijan stance in this conflict may well turn the whole of the Islamic world, including Iran. against the West again, with all the concomitant evil and disruption that stem from fundamentalism.

IAN BOWLER, Secretary, The Azerbaijan Foundation, 24 Poplar Place, W2. March 13.

'Invisible' women

From Dr Gillian Morriss-Kav

Yours faithfully.

Poll tax collection

From the Director of Finance, Islington Council

Human Rights Committee),

24 St Anne's Terrace, NW8

Sir, I take exception to your reference to Islington Council having the highest surcharge in the country for non-payment of £124 (report, March 13). The figure you quote is that which appears as other adjustments on the bill. This covers a number of items of which the amount for non-payment of previous years' poll tax is only £50. This council has been unfairly highlighted for adopting a realistic and honest approach to setting and reporting its poll-tax levels.

The government has recognised the considerable difficulties in collecting the tax by extending the collection period from two years to six. In the light of this and current collection rates reported the amounts shown for non-collection in other boroughs seem somewhat low.

Yours sincerely. A. R. STENNING, Director of Finance, Islington Council, 222 Upper Street, N1.

Scrolls scholarship

Sir, I have only now had a chance to read the article which you published on December 27, 1991, by Professor Geza Vermes of Oxford, "Secrets of the Scrolls", aimed at reassuring your readers that there is nothing amiss in Dead Sea Scroll studies and

Referring to your own "uncritical" reporting, Professor Vermes uncritically quotes what he wishes your readership to believe are my views about a text referring to a "violent death" of a Messianic "leader" of some kind, within the framework of familiar Messianic prophecy.

The only claim I have made about this text is that it shows that both Qumran and early Christianity were

Sir, Janet Daley's article, "A race of

invisible women" (March 10), perceptively describes the position of women in many large organisations, including universities. In its first annual report, written in December 1991, Oxford University's recently formed Equal Opportunities Committee (of which I am a member) drew attention to the fact that just under 4 per cent of the professoriate of the university was female.
Last week, 27 new promotions to

professorships were announced; they are all male, bringing the female representation in this most senior grade of academic appointment down to 3.3 per cent. Not only are the women holders of academic posts invisible here, but so, apparently, is the Equal Opportunities Committee.

Yours faithfully, GILLIAN MORRISS-KAY, University of Oxford, Department of Human Anatomy, South Parks Road, Oxford.

operating within the same Messianic scriptural framework, and brings the From Professor Robert Eisenman links between the two movements much closer than previously thought.

Professor Michael Wise of Chicago University and I released it to combat the view that there was nothing of interest in the unpublished scrolls. With his fascination with a Jesusattacking me - the third or fourth oriented form of Judaism, Vermes such attack on my views in your pages last year.

differs little from the other academic clerics who successfully dominated Dead Sea Scrolls studies for so long and attempted to rescue the uniqueness of Jesus -- c.f., the introduction to his Penguin translation of the Scrolls: "he the Teacher of Rightcousness) was without the genius of

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number (071) 782 5046.

that this government has filled the streets with beggars.

Our members will be just as enterprising during the next 10 years with a Labour government; but that government will help direct some of men and women in senior positions our enterprise towards those areas where it is needed to create an economy and society of which we can be proud. the longer-term implications for their businesses and employees of a

Yours sincerely, SIMON HASKEL Chairman. SIGMUND STERNBERG, Deputy Chairman, Labour Finance & Industry Group,

From Mr Leonard W. Sheen Sir, Labour's shadow Chancellor,

63a Ockendon Road, N1.

John Smith, has now revealed his proposed changes to income tax and National Insurance contributions. With an effective marginal rate of 59 per cent he has clearly failed to learn the lessons of the past. It is no coincidence that with every successive top-rate cut introduced by Nigel Lawson, the amount of income tax collected increased.

However, of much more concern must be the impact of the proposals on inward investment. As we lose out to countries such as The Netherlands, who provide clear tax in-centives to inbound executives, the United Kingdom will cease to be a favoured location for European and international manufacturing operations and corporate headquarters.

The effect of this will be to reduce vestment, reduce economic growth, leading to a higher PSBR, a devaluation of the pound and double figure

Yours faithfully, LEONARD W. SHEEN, Summerleigh, 54d Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex. March 17.

Business letters, page 23

Car phone protection From Mr D. J. Henning

Sir, Bob Whitehouse's article about the cost of having a cellular tele-phone stolen (Infotech Times, March 13) overstates the complications. Our users may report losses to the Vodasone customer-care organis-ation at any time of day or night, without cost. After a simple authentication process the Vodafone is barred from use.

A replacement phone may be supplied at no additional cost under a low-cost insurance policy which is conveniently billed with the monthly access charge.

ery number for which they are responsible daily to find excessive or unusual usage patterns. They should then contact the legitimate user and confirm whether a fraud is likely to have been committed.

Yours faithfully D. J. HENNING (Managing Director), Vodac Limited, Vodac House, Kings Road West, Newbury, Berkshire. March 13.

Travelling incognito From Mr Neil Garrard

Sir, Your correspondent (March 14) may rest assured that failure to give an accurate description of his occupation on hotel registration forms is unlikely to lead to any major exaction.

For many years I have always met the request for my occupation by writing NOYB (i.e., none of your business). Occasionally, when extremely vexed, I have written

I have never had the satisfaction of being asked to explain what they

Yours sincerely NEIL GARRARD. 15 Drayton Gardens, SW10.

From Mrs Anne McCall Sir, Presumably hotels request the occupation of their guests should they require their services. I invariably enter mother and lover, but have

yet to be summoned.

Mr Gorman should consider himself lucky that the Half Moon Bay hotel needed neither a plumber nor a

Yours faithfully. ANNE McCALL Temple Barn. Capel, Surrey.

Christ who laid bare the inner core of spiritual truth".

Nor are Vermes's translations very different from his characterisation of my views, betraying the same theological predisposition throughout — e.g., for "Holy Spirit" he reads "spirit of holiness", for "works" the less charged "deeds", and for "Messistant and siah" the more innocuous "anointed

one".
Professor Vermes contemptuously refers to my views as "the Gospel according to St Eisenman". I am flattered by this; as the "gospel" he is propagating is the same uncritical one we have all been subjected to for some 19 centuries now. Yours sincerely,

ROBERT EISENMAN. California State University. Department of Religious Studies, 1250 Bellflower Boulevard. Long Beach, California 90840-2409, USA.

A chilly view of Himalaya climb

From Mr Bill Ruthven

Sir, So a party of 30 climbers (virtually unknown and with little high-altitude experience) is planning to climb Makalu (report, March 12) whilst their 420 porters clear the estimated four tonnes of rubbish left by previous expeditions.

Whilst I applaud the sentiment, the project seems to be an anachronism: I would have thought that à team of this size was likely to make as great an impact on the environment as all their predecessors put together.

With British Telecom backing amounting to £250,000, the expedition also intends to send live pictures back to the BBC. This is hardly the technological break-through they would have you believe. Late in 1987 a Japanese expedition to Everest announced plans to beam live pictures back from the summit during prime viewing time in Japan on May 5, 1988. They achieved their objective, and pictures were later shown on ITV.

For a number of reasons it is unlikely that this expedition would have received the approval of either the Mount Everest Foundation or the British Mountaineering Council If it had submitted an application. What a pity that BT apparently took no action to establish either the bona fides of the trip from accepted mountaineering specialists or the approval of their shareholders before their magnanimous act.

BILL RUTHVEN (Honorary Secretary, Mount Everest Foundation). Gowrie, Cardwell Close, Warton, Preston, Lancashire.

Profiting from geese

From the Chief Executive, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Sir, Kerry Gill ("Geese eat into farmers' profits", March 12) draws attention to the problems caused to individual farmers by barnacle geese on the Solway, but fails to present the full economic picture.

Damage to crops can cause financial loss to the individual farmer; however the cereals eaten by the geese might otherwise be expensive surpluses under the common agricultural policy.

The geese also attract many tourists to the area off-season. This boosts the local economy, but is of little benefit to individual farmers.

The solution is to ensure that these farmers are paid through the CAP to manage their land for geese. The RSPB has proposed linking agricultural support to the provision of "public goods", such as wildlife conservation, through incentives for environmentally sensitive farming. It is a more sensible option than trying to set arbitrary limits on the goose

The recent designation of several important goose sites, including east Essex and Isiay in the Inner Hebrides, as ESAs (environmentally sensitive areas) provides a welcome opportunity to take this new ap-

Yours faithfully, BARBARA S. YOUNG, Chief Executive, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire. March 13.

Unfair to Gibbon From Mr P. M. A. Nokes

Sir, I must defend Edward Gibbon against the charge, levelled by Dan-iel Johnson ("Literary tortoises", March 13), of idleness after completion of his Decline and Fall. Gibbon wrote the last lines of that great work on June 27, 1787, and then returned to England to oversee publication of the final three volumes which came out in May 1788.

Despite ill health and domestic upheavals he was by no means inactive during the remaining five and a half years of his life. His history of the House of Brunswick dates from this time, as does his essay on the circumnavigation of Africa. Moreover, this was the period when Gibbon composed his memoirs. And to the dismay of his friend and executor Lord Sheffield he produced no fewer than six different drafts of this minor masterpiece.

These are not the signs of an idle man. Indeed, further projects were mooted, and had Gibbon not been snatched away prematurely at the age of 56 (not 57) the world would almost certainly have read yet more from his silver pen.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP NOKES. Stoney Lane Cottage, Chantry, Frome, Somerset. March 16.

Under-developed?

From Mrs Peggy Harbidge

Sir. I have "inherited" from a young keen-green photographer friend who is moving to Bristol a large quantity of those small plastic canisters that films come in. He had been hoping to recycle them, but it seems the manufacturers do not want to know. Can any of your readers suggest a

suitable use for these objects? Yours faithfully. PEGGY HARBIDGE, The Gift Shop, St Margarets, Dover, Kent.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 17: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Pal-

The Oueen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Mr Henry Elwes, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire at the Service of Thanks-giving for the Life of Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs, formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire, which was held in Gloucester Cathedral today.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady-in-Waiting to The

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 17: The Duke and Duchess of York were represented by Mrs John Floyd at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs, formerty Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire, which was held in Gloucester Cathedral today,

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 17: The Prince Edward, Trustee, today gave a lunch for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Buckingham Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 17: The Princess Royal March 17: the Princess Royal this morning visited the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf Training Centre. Lewknor, Oxford, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Oxfordshire [Sir Ashley Ponsonby, Bt).

Her Royal Highness afterwards attended the Evergenth Annual attended the Fourteenth Annual Dicey Trust Conference. "Sport and the Rule of Law". at St

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in The Princess Royal was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gibbs at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Colo-nel Sir Martin Gibbs, formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant fro Gloucestershire, which was held at Gloucester Cathedral

Edmund Hall, Oxford.

CLARENCE HOUSE March 17: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning presented Shamrock to the 1st Battalion Itish Guards at Wavell Barracks, Berlin, on the occasion of St Patrick's Day.
The Lady Angela Oswald. Major Sir Ralph Anstruther. Bt. and

Captain Conolly Morris-Adams ware in attendance Dame Frances Campbell-Pres-ton has succeeded the Lady An-gela Oswald as Lady-In-Watting to Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE March 17: The Prince and Princess of Wales today visited Lincolnshire and were received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Lincolnshire (Captain Henry

This morning Their Royal Highnesses visited the Waterside Shopping Centre, Lincoln. Afterwards The Prince Wales, President, Business in the Community, met members of the Training and Enterprise Council to discuss Enterprise initiative. This afternoon the Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust and The Prince's Trust, met recipients of the Awards schemes, at Belton Woods Hotel and Country Club, Grantham.

Subsequently His Royal Highness, Patron, Macmilian Nurse Appeal, met Macmilian nurses and patients at Pilgrim Hospital, Finally His Royal Highness

visited HM Prison, North Sea Camp. Freiston. This afternoon The Princess of Wales visited St Francis School,

Wickenby Crescent, Lincoln, Afterwards Her Royal Highness visited St Barnabas Hospice, Nettleham Road, Lincoln.

Mrs James Lonsdale and Lieutenant Commander Robert Fraser, RN, were in attendance. The Prince and Princess of Wales were represented by the Earl of Westmorland at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs. formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire, which was held in Gloucester

KENSINGTON PALACE March 17: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was sent today at the Barbican Hall at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The Hon Mrs Whitehead was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE March 17: The Duke of Glouces ter, President, the Institute of Advanced Motorists was present at a luncheon given by the Council at the Cavairy and Guards Club. 127 Piccadilly.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance. The Duckers of Gloucester this afternoon was admitted as a Fellow of Queen Mary and West-

field College, University of London, Mile End Road, London Later Her Royal Highness. Patron, the Iris Fund (for the Prevention of Blindness) attended an Inaugural Lecture at St Thom-as's Hospital, Lambeth Palace Road, London SEI.

Mrs Howard Page was in Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by Lleutemant Colonel Sir Simon Bland at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs, formerly, Her Melesty's Lord merly Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Gloucestershire, which was held in Gloucester

YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE March 17: The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Commander Roger Walker, RN, at a Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs which was held in Glouces ter Cathedral this afternoon.

Cathedral today.



A rail traveller reaches for his wallet urged on by Brian Johnston, the broadcaster, who was collecting for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on Lifeboat day at Paddington station, London, yesterday

High Sheriffs

High Sheriffs appointed by Her Majesty in Council for the year 1992: England (except Cornwall, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire):

George Philip Henry James, of Luton.

Berkuhire: Sidney wallace Smart of Chaddleworth, Newbury.

Buckinghamshire: Catharine Margaret Ludy Popplewell, of Chararidge, Character. ambridgesbire: Godfrey Richard

norings. Shire: The Hon Peter Cilbert Enall of Daresbury, Warrington, cland: Graham Coriett Mitchell of on, Stockton-on-Tees. bria: Myles Christopher Ross Sand-UNITED DAVID CADE Wigglissworth
official Derby,
it Mrs Elizabeth Arme Eden, of igilown, near Exeler, riet: Giles Paurick Sturdy of Warcham, Durham: Mrs Elizabeth Ann Jennings of Sairley, Bishop Auckland. East Surser: Inn Douglas George Cox of Brighnling, Robertsbridge. Esser: Alan George Trition of Great Leighs, Chelmsford. Glucespraphyre: The More Philip, Rest.

Leighs, Chelmsford.
Gloucescrishie: The Hon Philip Raginald Smith of Calpping Campden.
Greater London: James Anthony
Lemkin of London NW3.
Flampshire: Anthony Seymour Serkeley
Pothana of Upron. Andover.
Hersford and Worcester: Vanda Alexandra Clare, Lady Cottends of Garnons,
Hersford. numbersion John Westland Actory Jugaton of Scawby, Brigg. sle of Wight David Ernest John Guy of pringvale, Service. Hyde Villiers of Ulcombs,

ig's Lynn. ribampionshire: Richard Paul Kettering. land: John Michael Loyd of lge, Hexham on of Ke orough, leicestershire,
ihire John Joseph Ryston of
, Berkshire,
ihre Edward Martin Amphiett
ion of 5th Ashes, Bridgmorn,
et: Edward William Aystlord
rd of Langford Budville, Welling-

Botherisan. Staffordshire: Roger Edward Whitfield of Standon, Stafford, Staffolic William Le Grand Jacob of fidge. Gersion Ernest Les-Stoors of cis;.

ne and Wear: Hugh Goundry Brown
Newcastle upon Tyne.
rwickshire: Bristow Charles Bovill of
liford. Shipston-on-Stour. Mallord. Shipston-on-Stour.
West Midlands: John Anthony Jufferson
of Binton, Stratford-on-Avon.
West Sussec: Jeremy Fox Eric Smith of
Haywards Heath,
West Yorkshire: David Humphrey Boyle,
Luncher, Illier

Wales Clywd: Robert Gwynn Hughes of Denbigh. Dyfed: George Malcolm Green of pher Allen Harding-Rolls of Monamonth.

Gwynedd: Mrs Annwen Carry-Bynni of Pentre Felin, Criccieth.

Mid Glamorgan: Kenneth Mertin David Johns of Capel Limithern.

Powys: Ian Gray of Lianyllia.

South Glamorgan: Alastair Owen Golley of Dinas Powis.

West Glamorgan: William Limas James of Swanses.

Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society

Mr B.R. Hollands, Tresnurer and Member of the Committee of Management of the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society, retires on May 4, 1992, and consequent upon his retirement, Mr T.S.B. Philpot, FCA, Investment Man-ager, has been appointed investWells, FCA, MIMC, Chief Finan-cial Officer has been appointed Treasurer of the Society. Both Mr Philipot and Mr Wells have been co-opied to the Committee of Management with effect from May 4, 1992

Dinners

Queen Mary and Westfield College Mr Martin R. Harris, Chairman of Council of Queen Mary and Westfield College, London University, and Professor Gra-ham Zellick, principal, were hosts last night at a dinner held at the college in honour of the new fellows. Professor Lord Peston, a new fellow, also spoke. Among

those present were: those present were:
Mr Alexander Baron, Mr W L Cockburn,
Professor W J Fishman, Professor A T
Hamo, Dr D F J Mason and Mr Sam
wanamaker (new fellows), the Most Rev
Trevor Ruddlesson, Lord Dainton, Lord
Jenkin of Roding, Sir Andrew Huxley,
OM, Lady Marre. Sir James Menter,
Professor Sir Randolph Quith: Professor
Sir Bryan Thwaltes, Professor D C
Bradley, Dr F C Chestor, Professor F R
Crane, Mr Geottrey Drain, Professor C R
Gantellin, Mr P D Hall, Dr F Holmes,
Professor Anna Jones, Miss G M Lewis,
His Honour Alan Lipitiend, Mr Bryan

Birthdays today Lieutenant-General Sir. Peter

Lieutenant-General Sir. Peter Beale, 58; Professor Alexander Boksenberg, director, Royal Greenwich Observatory, 56; Major Sir David Butter, Lord Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross, 72; Mr. J.P. Dawson, trades unionist, 52; Miss Lois Dyer, international physiotherapy consultant, 67; Mr Pat Eddery, jockey, 40; Sir William Fraser, principal and vice-chancellor, Glasgow University, 63; Sir Peter Harrop, civil servant, 66; Mr Alex Higgins, snooker player, 43; Mr. Harrop, civil servant, 66; Mr Alex Higgins, snooker player, 43; Mr Patrick Kavanagh, former deputy-commissioner, Metropolitan Police, 69; Sir Robin McAlpine, former chairman, Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons, 86; Professor Sir Gordon Robson, anaesthetist, 71; Mr Alan Sapper, trades unionist, 61; Mr Ingemar Stemmark, sider, 36; Professor Eric Sunderland, former vice-chancellor. University of Wales. chancellor, University of Wales, 62; Mr John Updike, writer, 60.

Reading University Lord and Lady Bridges were the guests of honour at a dinner held last night at Reading University to mark the 25th anniversary of Bridges Hall. Miss Margaret D Fuller, Warden, presided. Among others present were:

Officis present were:

Sir Harry and Lady Pin, Miss Klieer M
L Cole, Dr and Mrs A Bendey, Professor
and Mrs M D Riddiss, Dr and Mrs A
Bottoniley, Professor and Mrs G W A
Powies, Dr and Mrs M A G Garman,
sits G Goldman, Professor and Mrs G W
Harborne, Mr and Mrs J E M Inge, Dr
M K Pescock, Dr and Mrs F # folimon,
Mr and Mrs A M W Price, Dr E A
Robson, Dr and Mrs T T B Ryder,
Professor and Mrs G Tyler, Dr and Mrs
E Y Watson and Dr S B Ward.

University news

QUEEN MARY AND WESTFIELD At a fellowship caremony held at the College yesterday, the follow-ing were admitted as Fellows of the College: The Duchess of Gioucster, Mr Alexander Baron,

Wangmaker **Anniversaries** BIRTHS: Grover Cleveland, 22nd president of the USA 1885-89, and 24th 1893-97, Caldwell, New Jersey, 1837; Stephen Mel-larme, poet, Paris, 1842; Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov. composer. Tikhvin, Russis, 1844.
DEATH: St Edward the Martyr, king of England 975-78.
murdered Corfe Castle, Dorset,

65 Cruiched Friers.
Leadon ECSN 2NPS.

PANORAMA LESCRE

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49 Queen Victoria Street.

Loodon ECNA 45A on Priday.

20th March 1992 at 2.30 p.m. for

the purposers mentioned in Sec
lone 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A ligh of the names and

addresses of the Company's credilors may be inspected free of

change at the offices of Singla A

Company. Charleted Accoun
lanist, 49 Queen Victoria Street,

London ECAN 45A between 10

a m and a p.m. on Wednesday

Cardifors must submit a proof

of debt before voting and, unless

linery surrender their security,

secured creditors must give pur

liculars of librar sevarity and his

value.

Dated this 6th day

of harch 1992

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TAMERITAL IMPTED

Kodice of Administration Order
Registered number: 1681553.
Nature of business: Office Furniture Manufacturing, Trade classification Maturacture of Immer and furniture in American 1992, and furniture in Administration Order master. 1 March 1992, and Regier A Powerful Office and Regier A Powerful Cirice holder nos 2263 and 2592.

Mossley, Lancashire.

Mr W.L. Cockburn, Professor W.J. Fishman, Professor A.T. Hatto, Dr D.F.J. Mason, Professor sor Lord Peston, Mr Sam

> Luke's Community and Day Care Centre, Gosterwood Street, Deptford at 10.25.

attend a luncheon, followed by a

Forthcoming marriages Mr A.M. Laxenoore and Miss G.C.S. Grey

The Hon E.J. Bedest and Mrs C.E. McEwes The engagement is announced between Alisdair, son of the late The engagement is announced between Edward John, elder son Mr D.M. Luxmoore, and of Mrs of Lord and Lady Grimthorpe, and Carey Elisabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin V. Palmer, of Yealmpton, Devon, and Genesia, elder daughter of

Mr E.J. Birden

and Miss A.M. White

Burgh St Peter, Norfolk

Mr D. Callander and Miss H.L. Matthews

Nottinghamshire.

and Miss L.K.A. Morris

Mr R.T. Cox

Glamorgan.

Mr A.J. Crellin and Miss J. Withers

Modbury, Devon.

Ѕштеу.

Mr A.D. Fordham and Miss R.F. Williams

Mr B.J. Georges and Miss A.G. Scott

Mr M.A. Harvey and Miss K. Welton

Scott, of Melbourne, Australia.

The engagement is announced between Mark Andrew, eider son

of Mr and Mrs Laurence Harvey, of Feltham, Middleser, and Karen, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Robert Welson, of

Mr and Mrs T.G. Grey, of Old Hunstanton, Norfolk. Mr W. Meijer

and Ms L.A. Stuart The engagement is announced between Elion, eldest son of Mr The engagement is announced in London between Wouter, and Mrs K. Birden, of Doncaster. youngest son of Mr and Mrs Herman Meijer, of Johannes-South Yorkshire, and Anthea. daughter of Dr and Mrs P. White, burg, South Africa, and Laura Ann, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Stuart, of Knysna, formerly of Duntisbourne Rous, Gloucestershire and now of South Africa.

Mr E.T.L. Newton and Miss P.J. Barber

The engagement is announced The engagement is announced between Ned, youngest son of the between David, son of Mr and Mrs A.D. Callander, of Port of late Mr and Mrs Frank Newton. Menteith, Surling and Helen Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Matthews, of Bingham. of Much Hadham, Hertford-shire, and Penelope, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Hilary Barber, of St Briavels, Gloucester-The engagement is announced between Russell, younger son of Mr Bernard Cox, of Islington and the late Mrs Margaret Cox, and Leah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric Morris, of Barry, South

Captain D.J.C. Russell-Parsons and Miss J.M. Climas The engagement is announced between David John Clive Russell-Parsons, Grenadier Guards, eldest son of Mr John and the late Mrs Fiona Russell-Parsons, of West Haddon, Northamptonshire, and Joanne Margaret, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Vivian Climas, of Tamworth, Australia.

The engagement is announced between Alistair, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Crellin, of Taunton, and Jennie, elder daughter of Mrs Gillian Withers Mr H.D.A. Premice and Miss E.M. Pigot The engagement is announced between Hamish, elder son of Mr and the late Mr Eric Withers, of T. Prentice, of Dorchester, Dorset, and Mrs P. Prentice, of Blandford, Dorset, and Elizabeth The engagement is announced between Andrew David, only son of Mr and Mrs AJ. Fordham, of Grayshot, Hampshire, and Rosemary Frances, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs MJ.

(Libbla), youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E.W. Pigot, of Holcombe, Somerset. Mr D.R.N. Tod

and Miss S.L. Carter The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr C.J.N. Williams, of West Clandon, Tod, of Steyning, West Sussex, and Mrs S.E. Reed, of Yapton, West Sussex, and Sheila, daughter of Mr and Mrs W.T. The engagement is announced between Bradford, son of Mr and Mrs Leonard J. Georges, of Las Veges, Nevada, and Arabella, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan T. Carter, of Blacksburg, Virginia.

Marriage Sir David Nicolson

and Lady Thorsey
The marriage took place quietly
on March 17, 1992, at All Saints'
Church, Bale, Norfolk, of David Lancaster, widower of Joan Eilean, to Beryl Preston, nee Rhodes, widow of Sir Gerald Thorley, TD. The Rev W. Brown

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will attend a service at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guild-hall to mark the 75th anniversary of King George V's Fund for Sallors at 10.50; and will amend a ion at Guildhall for the reception at Guildhall for the fund given by the Corporation of

The Princess of Wales, as President of Barnado's, will visit St

The Princess Royal, Chief Com-mandant of the WRNS, will visit the Headquarters of Com-mander-in-Chief Fleet and HMS Warrior, Northwood, at 8.30mm. The Duke of Kens, as President of the Imperial War Museum, will

2.30: and, as President of the Royal Armouries Development Trust, will attend the relaunch of the trust appeal at the Tower of

London at 7.20. The Duchess of Kent will open the newly extended radiology depart-ment at Yeovil District Hospital

The St James's Secretarial College

The St James's Secretarial College will be holding its 80th Anniversary Reception on April 23. The Principal, Mrs G.M. Hewetson. would like to hear from any old students who may wish to attend. Please ring 071 373 3852.

Jesus said. 'R is for judgement that I have come into this world to give sight to the sightless and to make blind those who see.' Si. John 9: 39 (REB)

BIRTHS BAKER - On March 14th, to Susan face Netson) and Paul, a daughter, Emily Catherine Mary BRADSHAW - On March Bilt. INADSKAW - ON MATCH BIR.

LO Alison inde Balley) and
Dan a daughter Olivin Clare.

BUDDEN - On March 16th
1942. al Southampton. to
Marey inde Knost and Philip,
a daughter. Lucy Anne.

CARTER - On March 6th. to
Pamela inde Oppegard) and
Matthew. a son. Elitot
William.

CHESTER-MASTER - On March 12th, at Hereford, to Vancasa and Ben a son, Alexander Richard. COLE - On March 14th, to Yvonne Ince Hawkins) and lames, a daughter, Annabel Charlotte Mary, a sister for

Robert CROSBIE DAWSON - On March 14th, to Kalle and Tom, a son a brother for Lucy and Helen Luc) and Helen

BATON - On March 15th, to
Cath; nee Williams; and
Michael, a second beguilful
daughter, Lauta Michelle

EVANS-FREKE - On Februars 23 1992 to Valerie and
Stephen, a son York, Peter

GLOVER - On March 13th
1992 to Nitola iner Van den
Bergih; and Jonathan, a son,
Hugo James Nakolm

JAMMESON - On March 17th. Hugo James March 17th, al Cueén Charlolle's Hospital. 10 Bella mer Rickordi and Charles. à daughter. Alexandra Caire.

MORAN - On March 15th. at the Si Heller Hospital, in Jacqueline and John, a son, Andrew John, a brother for James and Kalle James and Walle
NURSE - On March 14th, lo
Serena ince Williams; and
Richard a daughter.
Josephine Anna. RAWLERCE On March 16th. to Carol were Sanlord; and Nicel, a son, Peler Anthony, a brother for David UPTON-DAVIS - On March 13h 1992. lo Karen and Peler, a lovely son. Patrick Hugn a brother for Andrew and Lewis Thank you lo Susan and Barbara WRIGHT - On March 1st. lo

Rosemars (nee Poller) and Roger, a daughter, Alice Margaret Poller MARRIAGES

HOOGSON-COANLEY:
DARBY - On March 7th. at
Brinklow Officer Cadel
Jeremy Robert Hodgson
Coakley to Rhyanne Louise
Darby The marriage service
was conducted by The Right
Reverend Bishop of
Middleton

ANdricton PATMORE: GREENSTHEET On March 14th 1992, at Si Mary's Church, Eversley, and Mrs David Palmore of Barton-le Willows, York, lo Rosanna, rider daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Greenstreet of Camberley, Surrey.

ANNIVERSARIES TO K thank you for all the love

and loy of our first year With all my love PV.

DEATHS

ATKINSON - On Friday March 13th 1992, Colonel Francis Cuthbert CO. 871. Dl., Royal Norfolk Regiment retired, aged 79 years. Beinveil Jahre of Bridget aus brother of Mrs. Michael Sparke. Funeral Service at 81. Joseph Callholic Church, Sheringham, on Thursday March 19th at 11.30 sm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, to the Royal British Legion, Sheringham Branch. c/e Byth Funeral Directors, Sheringham. Memorial Service to be aunounced later.

DAVIÉS - On March 12th 1992 in Natal, South Africs, suddenty at home, John Christopher Widdrington, beloved son of Diana, brother of Julian and Jean and much loved father of Jereny, Nicholas, Hilary, Philip and Miles.

DONIGER - On March 16th, Renée, beloved wife of Joe and mother of Caroline and Pamela, Funeral private, No flowers Donations if desired to Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund, 203 Fulham Road, London SW3 6JJ Read. London SW3 6JJ

GARNONS WILLIAMS - On
March 15th, peacefully,
Basil, oped 85 years, Dearly
loved father of Jane, John
and Annabella and
grandfather of six devoted
standchildren. Family
funeral at Sonning at 2 pm
Monday March 23rd No
flowers please, donations if
destred to RNIB. A Memortal
Service will be held at
Berkhamsted at a later date.

GLANETEL D. On March 16th

Berkhamsled at a later date.
GLANFIELD On March 16th, peacefully in Tunbridge Wells, Norman Lawrence, ased 89 Youngest son of the late Sir Robert and Lady Glanfield Funeral Service at the Church of King Charles the Martyr. Tunbridge Wells, on March 23rd at 2.30 pm, followed by private cremation Flowers of donations to League of Friends, Kent and Sussex Hospital, may be sent c/o E R Hickmott & Son, 41 Grate Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, HAMHLTON - On March 16th.

HAMILTON - On March 15th. HAMILTON - On March 16th, after a long illiness. John, beloved brother of Margot McLaughlin. Brigadier Hugh Hamilton and uncle of David. Fichal. Jake and Bright Funeral Service at St John's Church. Ladbroke Grove. Wil on Tuesday March 24th at 2.45 pm, followed by private cremation Family flowers only but donetions if desirated. flowers only but donations if desired to Cancer Relief Fund. Anchor House 15-19 Bretton Street, SW3 3TZ

HAMILTON - On March 15th, peacefully. Col. Lambert //Marcusi Hamilton O B.E., aged 83. Dearly loved and sadly missed by family and friends Funeral at St Peiroc's Church, South Brent, Devon, at 1 pm Friday Marth 20th, Donalions if desired to SL'BL'D c/o Perrings High St. Totnes. MESSION - On Sunday March 18th. Roy went to be with his Sactour who he loved dearty and served joyousty A Service of Praise and Thank-sming will be held in Uplon Vate Baptist Church. Torquay, on Tuesday March 24th at 2pm Famils flowers only

HUDSON - On March 13th
1992. pencefully in Kings
College Hospital after a short
illnest. Alan. aged 36 years,
of West Chillington, Sussex,
formerly of Coutsdon,
Surrey, Beloved husband of
Kay, Father of Dawn and
Tracey, Bervice at 8t Marcy's
Church, West Chiltington,
Tuesday March 24th al
11.45 am, followed by
cremation, Family flowers
only pieses, donations if
desired may be sent for Kings
Appeal (Liver LT, Until c/o
H.D, Tribe Lid. 130
Broedwater Road, Worthing,
let: 107031/234216.

et: 10903/254516.

HUTT - On March 16th 1992, peacefully at home. Rosemany Diana, much loved wife of David and mather of Rosantioned. Tilly and Juliel. Funeral at 5t Philip and 8t James Church. Neston, at 3 pm on Friday March 20th. Family Rowers only please, donations to the Macmillan Nurses or the Dorothy House Foundation (of H Merrell Funeral Directors. 57A Pickwick Road, Corsham, Wills. SN13 985. Corsham, Wills, SN13 985.

DIMF - On March Lish 1992, peacefully at home in Maldon. Essex. Li. Cmdr. Peter Kemp O.B.E. Befored father: grandfather and great-grandfather. Fumeral, Monday March 23rd at All Saints Church. Maldon at 2 30 pm. No flowers at his request. But donations to Helen House Children's Hospice. Oxford.

LEVITT. Co. Monday March.

Hospice, Oxford.
LEVITT - On Monday March
16th 1992, Margaret Elspetin
(Margery) aged 88. Widow of
Frederick Charles of
Biggleswade. Funeral Service at SI Andrew's Church.
Biggleswade. On Thursday
March 26th al 2 pm.
followed by burdat at Ariesey
Churchyard Family flowers
only. Votuntary donations to
Imperial Cancer Revearch
Fund may be sent to T.L.
Cobbold. 23 New Street. St
Neols.

Neols.

MAYO - On March 15th
1992, suddenly at his home
in Branscombe, Devon, John
Henry, formerly of
Buckhurst Hill, Essex, The
funeral will be on Friday
March 20th at 5t Winfired's,
Branscombe, at 4,30 pm.
Family flowers only please,
Donations to St Winfired's
Chiurch.

8008GAN - On Monday Church.

MORGAN - On Monday
March 16th, peacefully in his
100th year. Colonel Frank
Stanley Morgan C.B.E.,
E.R.D., D.L., J.P. Formerly
Dembergia.

Pembroke Yeomanny,
Imperial Carnel Corps and
Inter Royal Corps of Signals,
Hussoand of Helera, Stableach
Nursing Home, Horton, Port
Eynon, West Clamorgan,
Service at Swamsea Crematorium on Salurday March
21st at 11 am No Research rium on Selurday Ma 21st at 11 am No flow Funeral Director, D. Colin Bowen (0792) 790960

NICHOLSON - On March idth, Edward Sealy, M.B.E., B.M., B.Ch., Deacufully at Beccies Hospital, Dearly beloved husband, father and beloved nuseand, rather and grandfather. Service at Oeldeston Church on March 23rd at 2.30 pm and afterwards at Corleman Cr-matorium. Family flowers only domaions if desired to Friends of Beccies Hospital. r/o Barclays Sank. Seccies. c/o Berciays Bank. Secciss.

RAMSAY - On Merch 18th.
Dorathy. beloved Mother
and Grandmother, widow of
Licutenant Colonel Stewart
Ramsay. In peace and with
great dignity. Memorial
Service to be hed at Cheisee
Old Church on Thursday.
April 2nd al moon. No.
flowers please. Donations to
Cancer Research.

POSS - On Moreh 11th 1889.

Cancur Research.

ROSS - On March 11th 1992.
pracraitly in Immutal. Narry.
beloved wife of the late John
frequient witces at SI Mardian's
Church. Little Common.
Beschill-on-Sea. on Monday
March 23rd at 11.45 am.
Flowers and enquiries to
Nummery F/D. 31 Devotinline Road. Beschill-on-Sea.
(0424) 730418.

(0424) 730418.

RUDD - On March 18th. after a courageous battle. Martin. aged 75 years. Beloved husband of Joyce, much loved father of Michael and Susan and grandfather of Collo and Sarah. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium (East Chapel) on Friday March 20th at 3.20 pm. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon. 9 Pond Street. London NWS. Donations to Leukaemia Research.

drai on September 26th.

and Robert. Funeral at St John's Church. Desborough Road. High Wycombe on Fri-day March 20th at 12 noon. Bowen (0792) 790960

MORTIMER - On March
15th, suddenly, Jimmy, aged
15th, suddenly, Jimmy, aged
172 years. Very lored
husband of Barbara,
wonderful father of Philippa,
Elizabeth and Thomas,
Funeral Mass at St Edmunds
Church, Village Way,
Beckenham, on Monday,
March 23rd at 11.30 am
Family flowers only, but
donalions to the Society of St
Vincent de Paul, c/o St
Edmunds, would be
gratefully appreciated

May 4, 1992.

STAGG - On March 16th, pescefully at home after a brave fight, Waiter, much loved humband of Jane: father of Richard: stepfather of Howard. Christopher, Julian and Camilla: and grandfather, Family cremation. Thanksgiving Service at All Saints, Nunney, at 11.30 am on Saturday March 28th. No flowers, Donations if desired to Sritish Association of Canter United Patients, 121/123 Charterhouse Street, London ECL.

Research.

SINGLAIR - On March 15th.

Pamela, beloved daughter of
Dallas Bower and the late
Violet Florence Bower, and
siver to Tessa and Delian
Cremation at West London
Crematorium. Friday March
20th. 11 am. Flowers to
Ballards. 20 Upper
Tachbrook Street, SW1.

Tachbrook Street, SW1.

SKININER - On March 16th 1992, suddenly at home in Rochester, Michael Timothy. CB, MA, Major Ceneral (retired) Much loved husband of Anne and dear father of David, Peter and Richard and grandfather of italiumine. Funeral Service on March 25rd at 11 50 am at Rochester Cathedral. Family flowers only but donalloms if desired to Rochester 2000 Appeal. There will be a Memorial Service at Rochester Cathedral on September 26th. SLATTER - On March 16th. pracefully at The Chaifonts and Gerrards Cross Hospital.

Paul Merideth Myrton Staller, born June 2nd 1910. Much loved husband of Mildred Kalnleen Staller ince Barnes) and father of David

Street. London ECI.

STOCK On March 13th 1992
In Liantivil Major. South
Glamorgan. John Miles.
Stock O.B.E., sped 67 years.
of Dursley. Clourestershire
Husband of the late Dorothy
Joyre Stock and father of
John, also grandfather of
John, also grandfather
John, als

t0446i 792489.

870K88 - On March 14th, very peacefully at the Lister Hospital.

Gwendolen, daughter of Col. Glaude Bayfield Slokes and his darling 019a (nee Postotsky). Funeral Service St Mary & Strand. 10 50 am Monday March 25rd. Plowers to J.H. Kenyon Ltd., 45 Marroes Brad. Kwasington WB. She wished to say thank you everyone for affection and fun.

IN MEMORIAM - WAR BALLYN - In loving memory of Cecil. Capiain. Royal Artitlery, 658 Squadron Air OP., DFC with Bar, who died of wounds on 18th

FOX - 18th March 1942. P O Harold M (Harry). Spliffre Pitet 249 Squadron. 39ed 20 St Pauls Bay. Malia. "Per Ardua Ad Asira" A O.H. IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE MORE O'PERRALL - March 18th 1982. Darling George. Lefer islon plopeer and film director So much fored by us all. Elizabeth.

LEGAL NOTICES

SPRO COMPLTER
SYSTEMS LTD
NOTICE IS HEREAV GRIZA.
Pursuant to Section 98 of the
insolvens, Act 1996 that a Meet
ing of the Creditors of the print of
the Creditors of the print of
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the Creditors of the print of
the Activity of the Sale Act
NOTICE IS FLRTHER GYEN
that Maurice Raymond
Dorrington FIPA of 4
Charterhouse Square, London,
ECTM GEN is appointed to act as
the qualified insolvens, Practition
or pursuant to Section 98 (29a)
of the 49d Act who will furnish
creditors with such information
as they may require
DATED this 11th day
of March 1992
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
A BRIMAR DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICES

INTERCRAFT
DESIGNS LIMITED
Notice of Administration Order
Registered number: E23645.
Nature of business: Office Furnitive Meanufacturing, Trade classification, Manufacture of Limber
and furniture. Administration
Order made: 11 March 1992.
Joint Administration's Ian McIsaec
and Roper A Pervedit. Office
helder not: 2263 and 2662.

HOLDINGS LIMITED
Notice of mutualities of order
Regatered number 2054163
Nature of business Office Furni ture Manufacturing, Trade classification; Manufacturing Trade classification; Manufacture of limber and furniture. Administration Order mode: 11 March 1992.
Joint Administrations ian Mcbase and Roper A Powdrill Office holder not 2363 and 2052. INTERCRAFT GROUP LIMITED INTERCRAFT CROLP LIMITED
Notice of Administration Order
Registered number 2236136
Nature of business. Office Furnifure Manufacturing, Trade classification Massifacture of limber
and furniture Administration
Order made. 11 March 1992.
Joint Administrators Ian Mrisaac
and Roger A Pole drill. Office
holder ner: 2263 and 2692

IN THE MATTER OF BLAIRS OF BCOTLAND LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE NSOLVENCY ACT 1986 NOTICE IS HERBY CALEN HAILWAY VERSON THE STATE OF THE NSOLVENCY REPORT OF THE NOTICE IS HERBY CALEN VERSON REVIEW SOURCE HOUSE LONDON WCIE SLF WAS APPOINTED JOHN LIQUIDAINT AS THE NEW AND THE STATE THE NEW AND THE NEW AND THE STATE THE NEW AND THE NEW AN Creditors

Notice is also hereby given, that
the creditors of the above named
Company, which is being voiun
larily wound up are required, on
the property of the above named
company, which is being voiun
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addresses of their solitors of
the undersayed their
square. London worth St.F the
Liquidalors of the said Carrenny
and it so required by moster in
writing by the said Liquidators
are proposally or by their solitor
to come up and prove their
such notice or in detault thereof
they will be excluded from the
benefit of any distribution made
before such debts are proved
DATED this Twelfin das
of March 1992
\table C wright

Br 4 Callaghant, Liquidalor 4 Notice is also hereby git en, that

IN THE MATTER OF THE IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1996
AND IN THE MATTER OF ROCHIORD THOMPION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN. PURSUANT OF HER OF HER OF HEREBY GIVEN AND THE SHEET OF HEREBY GIVEN AND THE SHEET OF HEREBY GIVEN AND THE SHEET OF HEREBY GIVEN AND THE HEREBY GIVEN AND THE HEREBY GIVEN AND THE HEREBY AND THE

am for the purposes mentioned in sections 48 and 49 of the said Art 4 creditor is entitled to tote at this meeting only if the Joint Administrative Receiver. Mr J R Hill of IDO Binder Hamiya. 20 Old Bailer. Londoin, ECAN 78H, not later than 12 00 nours on the 27th day of March 1942 dolalls in writing of the debt that the claims to be due to him from the above named company and the claim has been duly admitted for the purpose of entitlement to vote, and the three for the purpose of entitlement to vote, and and
O) there has been lodged with the
Administrative Receiver any
proxy winch the creditor intends
to be used on his behalf
JR Hin
Joint Administrative Receiver

WATCHWORD PLC AND IN THE MATTER OF WATCHWORD PLC AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSIGHT OF THE INSIGHT

required, on an entering the also day of Agril 1992, to seek in Unstitution of the Control of th

Mrs Barbara Bennett, Director

MICHAEL SALLIS & CO LTD
Registered number 1008402
Nature of business Property
Developers and Building Contrators. Trade classification 40
Date of apoptalment of administratis e receivers 10 Mairch 1992.
Nature of person abnoralities the
administrative receivers the administrative receivers 10 Mairch 1992.
Nature of person abnoralities the
definition of person administrative receivers Peter William
Growtee Tubulukson and Phillip
Redner Sykes toffice bodget nos
1369 and 61199 of RDO BindelMamityn 20 Old Balloy 1 ondon
FG4M 78H:

Notice of Appointment of Sele
Liquidator and Notice to
Creditors to Claim
T W MEATS LIMITED
Principal Trading Address
Tricipal Trading Address
To Creditors to Claim
T Central Markets Smithfeld
Lindon ECI
Company Number 1846604
NOTICE E NESEDY GIVEN
Natural to Rule 4.105 of the
Insolvency Rules 1995 that on 28
February 1992 Nigel Cooffrey
Attictson was appointed Heusidaties of the above named company
effections of was to company was
have not already done to should
alternity their claims in writing to
the liquidator at the following
states reference:
ACT on the Rose & Co.
Touche Rose & Co.
Touche Rose & Co.
Touche Rose & Co.
FO Box \$10 Filary Court.
65 Cruiched Filars.
PANORAMA I EARLEE

MARIAN ELIZABETH HOMES
FOR THE ELIZERI VI LIMITED
Registered numbor: 1832083.
Trading name. Aldinglon House.
Nature of business Providing
Accomodation for the Elderty.
Trade classification. At Date of
appointment of administrative receivers. 10 March 1992 Name
of person appointing the administrative receivers. Barriags Bank
Pic. Joint Administrative Receivers.
Peter Villiam Crostete
Dallaueson and Phillip Rodrey.
Shets rolline holder nos. 1569
and 6119: of BDO Binder
Hambrid 20 Old Bailey London
Ecology 1944

MERSE YSIDE BURCLAR
ALARM SECURITY
SERVICES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,
pursuant to Section 98 of the
timon-ency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above
named Company will be hold at
Latinam Crossley & Devis, Ark
virgint House, Parsonage Gar
vice of the Creditors of the above
wednesday 28th March 1992 at
11 50 and for the purposes mentioned in Section 99, 100 and 101
of the said Act
Notice is further given that
David A Twood FCA of Latham
Crossley & Davis. Arkwytish
House, Parsonage Gardens, Man
chester M5 2LE is appointed to
act as the qualified insolvency
Practitioner who will furnish
intermediate as they may
also require pitrium to Section
98 (28a)
Doled 9th March 1992
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Mrs Barbara Bennen. Director

MICHAEL SALLESS PROPERTY
HOLDINGS LIMITED
Registered number 1205118.
Nature of ousiness Property
Holding Trade classification. 46.
Date of appointment of administrails a receivers 10 March 1992
Native of person appointing the
administrative receivers.
Barclars Bank Pic Joint Admin
biralive Receivers. Peter William
Grostele DuBussion and Phillip
Rodney Syles toffice holder nos
1569 and 61194 of BDO Binder
Hantlyn 20 Cid Batter 1 ondon
ECAM 7881

and Roper A Popediii Office holder not 2363 and 2692.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 FORTHAL PROPERTY ACT 1986 FORTHAL ELECTION OLD BREW HOLES 130 HIGH STREET OLD WOKING.

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SURBLY, GUZZ 9LD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
BURSHARLE, SECTION 94 of the
Brastwery Act 1986, the a basel

SURREY, GUZZ SLD
NOTICE IS HEREST CEVEN
pursuant to Section 94 of Un
tensiventy Act 1982, these a meeding of the creditors of the above
harmed company will be held at
Westminister Chamber of Cotinherer on 1 Meant places.

A list of the marme and
addresses of the company's credition will be available for inspection from 6 Charge at Buchler
Phillips & Co. & Crow enor
Street. London W1X 9DF
between the Cotin of the
herer of Charge at Buchler
Phillips & Co. & Crow enor
Street. London W1X 9DF
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Phillips & Co. & Crown to the
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Phillips & Co. & Crown to Street.
Conditions winding to vote at the
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broof of dobt and undees attending
in person a pressor of Buckler Phill
inp & Co., & Crownoro Street.
Lordon. W1X 9DF no tolater than
12 noon on 17 March 1992.
Becurred creditors must, unless
the control of the Cotin of the Cotin
dive particulars of their security
and its acteresed value if they wish
to vote at the Meetung.

By Order of the Sourd
ken Smith, Director.

THE UNSOLVENCY ACT 1986
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for of the above Company by the creditors on 10th March 1992. Dated this 10th day of March 1992. Philip Moniact, FGA. Liverinase Leonard Cartin & Ch. Chartered Accountants PO See 583 50 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF **PERSONAL**

APPEARS INLIFE & **TIMES** SECTION PAGE 13

ALSO APPEAR IN THE PERSONAL PAGE

COLLEGE OF THE STATE OF THE STA

Answers from page 18 FOUDROYANT

(c) Thundering, flashing like lightning, stunning, dazzing, from the French fondrayer to strike like lightning: "When the fondroyant style of the organist commenced the hallstone chorus."

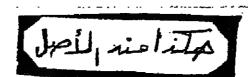
(b) Something insubstantial and frothy, floridly vapid discourse and writing, from the fashionable curdled cream pudding: "Latin and Greek books (compared with which most of the English are

SILLARUB

EUGERIA (a) Normal and happy old age, as in the case of Sophocies, from the Greek ea-well + geron an old man: "We all pray to whatever gods there be, give us

eugeria, but not yet, not yet." QUEME

(a) Pleasing, acceptable, agreeable to mind, feelings or senses, well-disposed to, in harmony with, belonging to the ablant series of the verb come. "They shall full into an intimacy with the malignant enemies to the work of God, and grow quests and cosh with them." cosh with them."





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ASAF MESSERER



Messerer as the hero, Philippe, in The Flames of Paris

Asaf Messerer, one of the leading stars of Soviet ballet and teacher of successive generations of outstanding dancers, died in Moscow on March 7 aged 88. He was born in Vilna (now Vilnius, Lithuania) on November 6, 1903.

ASAF Mikhailovich Messerer was some of the first of the generation of dancers who transformed Russian ballet after the Bolshevik revolution. He did not see his first ballet until 1919, when he was almost 16, but he began studying so hard, first under Mikhail Mordkin, then with Alexander Gorsky, that within three years he had joined the company of the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, which had been weakened by the departure of many dancers. He danced Stegfried in a 1922 production of Swan Lake by Gorsky. For the next 30 years he remained at the Bolshoi as a leading dancer, and although his roles were sometimes brilliant character cameos rather than the romantic leads, it was said that the sharpness he added always helped the success of the evening.
He could, and did, dance the

classics but, except for Don Quixote with its humour, his small stature made him better fitted for virtuoso demi-caractère parts. Among these were two acrobatic solos (one of them spinning while manipulating a long ribbon) which he introduced into The Red Poppy, one of the most successful creations of that period, in which his performance proved

When The Flames of Paris, with its story of the French Revolution, was produced in Moscow after its successful creation in Leningrad, Messerer was the obvious choice to play the hero, Philippe, where his impetuous acting was admired as much as his bravura technique. At the Moscow premiere of the Zakharov-choreographed The Fountain of Bakhchisarai, he made a tremendous impression as Nur-Ali, leading the Khan's warriors in their wildly virile dances.

who graduated a little later in Leningrad, Alexei Yermolayev and Vakhtang Chabukiani, Messerer pushed forward the boundaries of male baller technique. His special strength lay in a bounding leap. apparently without any visible preparation, and multiple turns in the air (the triple turns which he introduced are still a rarity). At the same time, these men worked for a direct, lively and vigorous manner on stage which encouraged, and was in turn developed by, choreography that sought to introduce a heroic style matching the social and political aspirations of the time.

 To Messerer also must be credited the introduction of a new acting style in the classics. When he first played Siegfried in Swan Lake, he was encouraged by his actor friends to drop the traditional mime ges-uires in favour of a more realistic way of expressing the feelings and actions. This was thought to make the old ballets more accessible to a wide public, and the idea still retains a hold on many Russian produc-tions, although latterly it has in-creasingly fallen out of favour. Even if, with hindsight, Messerer's inno-

vation looks like a blind alley, the intention was one which modern producers could still beneficially try to follow by other means.

Messerer's high standing in the early days of Soviet ballet is marked by the fact that he, his sister, Sulamith, and his wife, Irina Tikhomirnova, both of them leading dancers, were chosen to tour abroad in the 1920s to demonstrate their country's achievements. Messerer might have been chosen as an ambassador but he never hesitated to speak his mind. He was one of the signatories to a petition for more progressive appointments to the Bolshoi directorate in the 1920s, and in recent years he was again one of the outspoken critics of Yuri

SYDNEY HARPLEY

Grigorovich's policies. From his earliest days as a dancer, Messerer also taught at the Bolshoi,

Together with two other dancers and he rose to take charge of the mens' perfectioning class there from 1942. His reputation for gradually developing all the muscles so as to protect dancers from injury led some of the ballerinas also to attend, among them his niece, the prima ballerina Maya Plisetskaya.

Starting with a solo The Football

Player in 1924, Messerer tackled choreography too. He gave the Bolshoi Swan Lake a new last act with a happy ending (an ideologically acceptable way of matching the music's conclusion in the major key without resorting to mysticism) and with Igor Moiseyev he staged a new version of La Fille mal gardée. The work for which he is best known abroad is the showpiece concert duet Spring Waters, but his choreo-graphic ability was best shown in a more ambitious work drawing upon his teaching skills. This began as a creation, Leçon de danse, for Béjart's company in Brussels where Messerer was guest teacher in 1961. On returning to Moscow, he claborated it into the more ambitious School of Ballet designed to show off the many outstanding dancers then in the Bolshoi ballet, several of them his pupils. It enjoyed a triumphant reception when brought to the West during the 1960s. Messerer became the patriarch of

a considerable theatrical dynasty; besides his illustrious dancing wife. sister and niece, there were two dancer nephews, and his son Borls became a designer. Messerer was also held in great awe and affection by his pupils, who gave a splendid gala to honour him on his 80th birthday. Even after that event he did not retire but continued teaching until his last illness. He wrote two books, one of reminiscences and the other a textbook which was translated and published in

English.
He was recognised by appointment as Merited Artist of the USSR (1933), two Stalin Prizes (1941, 1947) and People's Artist of the Russian Federal Republic (1951).

APPRECIATIONS

Vanessa Lee

MAY I add brief personal memory of Vanessa Lee, the life-enhancing lady with the warm chuckle and wicked wit who sang her heart out in the post-war world of romantic musicals and lit up the sky wherever that lovely voice was to be heard (obituary, March

Audiences rose to her from the moment "Someday My Heart Will Awake" soared up over the orchestra pit and stopped the show on the first night of Ivor Novello's final musical King's Rhapsody at London's Palace Theatre.

It was a memorable night with Novello himself and Phyllis and Zena Dare as her co-stars but it was the young Vanessa who was unforget-

The last great star Novello created, Vanessa Lee be-longed to an era when going to the West End theatre was an elegant occasion. That time is gone and now she is

dear Vanessa, we whose sky you lit up and whose hearts you lifted with your music will miss you and remember you so long as songs continue to be written for the musical theatre and sung as only you

could sing them for us.

gone too, but happily her

voice lives on in her many fine

recordings. Even so, my very

Sir Roundd Millar

snow with Sloane Square al-

Sir Harold Hobson

YOUR excellent obituary of Sir Harold Hobson (March 14) reminds me of his elegant and elegiac entry in Who's Who.

In the 1981 edition, under Recreations, he wrote: "Recollecting in regretful tranquillity the magical things and people I may never see again the Grand Véfour, Lasserre, Baumanière: Proust's Grand Hotel at Balbec (Cabourg); Sunday af-ternoon teas at the Paris Ritz; the theatrical bookshop in St Germain-des-Prés: the Prado; Edwige Feuillère, Madeleine Renaud, Jean-Louis Barrault, François Périer, collecting from ephemera of the Belle Epoque the cartoons of Steinlen; and admiringly and affectionately talking to my wife (who died, alas, before she could read this tribute to her incomparable charm and wisdom, and the unquenchable radiance of her

Ian Curteis

MY MEMORY of the late Sir Harold Hobson is something rather special. In the late 1960s I was the Royal Court Theatre's press officer and knew then, as one does today, that critics were to be handled

with great care. On this particular first night of a particularly ambitious new production. London saw a heavy fall of

most snowbound. Knowing Mr Hobson's difficulty with walking I was anxious that he would not show, for unlike some directors I was aware of the power of Mr Hobson's better reviews. I positioned myself at the front door of the theatre; soon the Hobson Jaguar, chauffeured by Elizabeth his wife, came round the square, sliding to a halt. I ploughed forward to open the car door only to be told by Mr Hobson that he did not think he could make it across the pavement to the front door.

"I really don't think I can risk slipping, no, I shall come later in the run," said Mr Hobson. Now these were not words I wanted to hear, we needed this review in that Sunday's paper. Thinking on my feet. I quickly reassured him by offering to make his journey safely across the pavement by carrying him in my

"Well only if you are sure you can manage my weight." he said in a concerned tone.

We began the operation making it skilfully to the front door and beyond to his seat in the third row of the stalls.

No self respecting press of-ficer would even dream of revealing whether cradling a critic in one's arms influenced the review of the play. which ran and ran.

Memories are made of all this, goodbye Sir Harold and thank you.

Peter Cunard

Avraham Harman

AVRAHAM Harman (obituary February 29) might have made his mark at the English Bar had he not been moved by idealism to serve the cause of Zionism and the state of Israel. He won a history scholarship from Marylebone Grammar School

(where under his original name of Abraham Herman he was school captain) to Wadham College, Oxford, obtained a First and won a Lord Justice Holker Scholarship award at Gray's Inn in

He did not however, proceed to be called to the Bar. Many years later he was elected an hon fellow of Wadham.

Gershon Ellenbogen

three days in former times, and

the men would have arrived fatigued by the long march, instead of fresh and ready for

any operation.
The troops turned out at

1909

March 18 ON THIS DAY



The experiment of conveying a battalion of troops from battalion of troops from London to Hastings using cars seems to have been a success. Mr R.B. Haldane was the ecretary of State for War who

did much to bring the British Army up to date by establishing a British Expeditionary Force: creating a Territorial Force and a General Staff.

MOTOR-CAR TRANSPORT TO HASTINGS.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

The experiment in the transport of troops by motor-car to Hastings was carried out yes-terday with complete and un-mistakable success. The object was to demonstrate the value of motor-cars for conveying a sufficient force to any place that might be threatened or might be the subject of attack. Mr. Haldane had been careful to explain that the War Office was not responsible for the arrangements, and was merely co-operating in a very interesting experiment. The Auto-mobile Association not only conceived the idea, but worked it out in a practical form; and Colonel Du Cros, M.P., one of its members, who presented the scheme to the War Office, found Mr. Haldane very willing to provide the means of testing this new means of military transport.

For the first time in military history, therefore, an organized body of troops, being a composite battalion of Guards, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Erskine, 1st Scots Guards, has been transported by mechanical means away from the lines of railway. Hitherto such a column as journeyed so rapidly to Hastings, to meet a new "invasion" at that historic place, has kept the pace of infantry; what was done in some three hours would have occupied about

Wellington and Chelsea Barracks, wearing the new web-equipment, which wins much praise; and the military arrangements, which have been described in The Times, worked with perfect success.
The cars provided by members of the Automobile Association were all at their appointed rendezvous, and numbered and ready at the appointed time. Mr. Haldane was at Chelsea Barracks to witness the departure, and the men

"encarred" - to invent a word with great rapidity. At the appointed hour, 9 30 a.m., the heads of the columns were at Penge entrance to the Crystal Palace, one column lying along the Thicket-road, by which it had approached, another, in the same way, along the Crystal Palace Park-road, and the third, converging on the latter, along the Laurie Park-mad. It speaks much for the keenness of the public mind in military matters at the present time that people were gathered all along the road to Hastings in groups and crowds, that the school-children were turned out to witness the display, and that every village was gay with bunting, as if for a Royal It had been calculated by the

Guards' officers that the journey from the Crystal Palace to Hastings, a distance of 54 miles, would bring the head of the complete column, travel-ling at 20 miles an hour, into Hastings at 1 pm. Some doubts were expressed among experienced motorists as to the possibility of a column of 286 motor vehicles, exclusive of cars for Staff and other officers, guests and journalists, maintaining that speed. But the military forecast was justified by the result; and punc-tually at 1 o'clock the cars of the Headquarters Staff were speeding along the front to Hastings.

SALVATORE LIMA

Saivatore Lima, an Italian Christiaa Democrat member of the European parliament, was assassinated in Palermo on March 12 aged 64. He was born in the Sicilian capital on Jan-

uary 23, 1928.

SALVATORE Lima was for more than two decades the imperturbable right-hand man of the Christian Democrat prime minister Giulio Andreotti in Sicily, and was responsible for maintaining the party as the dominant political force in the island. He was provincial secretary of the Christian Democrats in Palermo from 1961 to 1968 and served as the mayor of the Sicilian capital for more than seven years. He was a



member of the Chamber of Deputies from 1968 to 1984 when he became a member of the European parliament. Signor Lima was said to be "untouchable" because of his popularity at all levels of Sicilian society and he drove around Palermo without a police escort. But he always denied vehemently charges levelled by his enemies that he

was linked to the Mafia. The son of a low grade municipal civil servant, he entered the Christian Democrat youth movement at 16 and was elected a town councillor at 21. After serving as an alderman and deputy mayor he crowned a meteoric rise to fame by becoming mayor of Palermo in 1958. He remained mayor until 1963 and served a second term in the post from 1965 to

In 1968 Signor Lima left

Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs

Cathedral.

The Queen and the Duke of

Edinburgh were represented by

Mr Henry Elwes, Lord-Lieuten-

ant of Gloucestershire, at a service

of thanksgiving for the life of

Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs held

yesterday in Gloucester

The Prince and Princess of

Wales were represented by the Earl of Westmorland, the Duke

and Duchess of York by Mrs John

Floyd, the Princess Royal by Leggenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs,

Princess Alice Duchess of

Glouester and the Duke and

Duchess of Gloucester by Lieuten-

ant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, the Duke and Duchess of Kent by

the Christian Democrat faction headed by Amintore Fantani and pledged his allegiance to the section of the party loyal to Signor Andreotti. He was rewarded with ministerial posts as under secretary for finance in the second Andreom govern-ment between 1972 and 1973 and as under secretary for the budget in govern-ments of Aldo Moro from

1974 to 1976. Palermo magistrates on several occasions applied for nity to be lifted so he could be investigated in connection with alleged irregularities in the distribution of building contracts during his periods as mayor. The chamber of deputies gave the magistrates permission to proceed but the inquiries never led to

Signor Andreotti defended his protégé against repeated accusations by enemies who claimed he had links with the Mafia. However, a report by a parliamentary committee into the Mafia in the 1980s mentioned Lima 149 times. As early as 1964 the left wing magazine l'Espresso dubbed him "the boss of Palermo." His influence in the island was legendary and much of his working routine was taken up with answering scores of letters that arrived at his office each day from ordinary Sicilians asking for help and favours. When he entered a

bar in Palermo it was usual

for everyone present to stand

In 1989 Giuseppe Pellegriti, a Mafia gangster turned informer, publicly accused Lima of ordering three of the most scandalous assassinations carried out by the Sicilian Mafia: the 1980 killing of the Christian Democrat regional government president Piersanti Mattarella and those in 1982 of the Sicilian Communist leader Pio La Torre and the anti-Mafia fighter General Carlo Alberto dalla Chiesa. Investigators did not accept the charges however and the informer was charged with slander and subsequently retracted the

Lima is survived by his wife, Giulietta, and a son and

Sydney Harpley, RA, sculp-tor, died in Dublin on

March 9 aged 64. He was born in London on April 19, 1927.

always be a responsive audience for paintings and sculpture which simply represent human beings being human; and always artists for whom this representation is a continuing delight. Sydney Harpley was one such sculp-tor; his favourite theme was the beauty of the female form in movement — languorous or lively. Harpley's particular contribution to sculpture was to capture such bodies maintaining their equipoise whilst on the move, and his variations on Girl on a Swing became, from around 1974,

almost an annual feature of Royal Academy Summer Exhibitions; proof of their continuing popularity was that Harpley carried off the Visi-tors' Choice prize in both 1978 and 1979. But if this was a delightful way of earning a sculptor's bread and butter, there was a broader range to Harpley's sculpture than visitors (and critics) may have realised.

Sydney Charles Harpley's father was an electrical engineer and cabinet maker and his mother a milliner. Early childhood in Dagenham, then a period as a wartime evacuee in Berkshire and Bedfordshire, was followed, in 1941 at the age of 14, by an apprenticeship as an electrician at an American airforce base.

National Service in the Royal Engineers from 1945 to 1948 took Harpley to Egypt and to Cairo, where the army found that he had a IQ and gave him an office job as a staff sergeant, the tedium of which he offset by organising weekly gramophone concerts. Then the sight of a head of Rameses II lying in the self same pit where it had been carved instantly determined him on a career as artist.

On demobilisation, morning work at the artificial limb factory in Roehampton made attendance at evening classes in art possible. He then enrolled full time at Hammer-



Harpley and bronze Girl on a Swing

smith School of Art in 1950, going on to the Royal College of Art from 1953 to 1956, where the sympathetic atelier training arranged by John Skeaping, whereby students worked alongside eminent sculptors, gave Harpley an emhusiastic start; he devel-oped a remarkable facility in modelling day. 1954 brought Harpley his

first appearance at the Royal

Academy Summer Exhibition while still a student, with a naturalistic girl sprawling on a chair, it was cast in ciment fondu. It was the inspiration of Degas, catching in his drawings the balance of the ungainly and the elegant, which prompted Harpley to find new, but everyday, situations for his figures: dancing or preparing to dance, riding bicycles, running, swimming, slumping in chairs, slouching in hammocks, or dreaming on swings. Harpley's presentation of these figures varied quite widely over the years. sometimes tending towards the abstract, sometimes quite sharply precise, sometimes quite fluid when cast in bronze. Sometimes they were fully dressed, sometimes naked and unashamed, and sometimes with skimpy clothing; sometimes tantalisingly conscious of their own beauty, sometimes oblivious.

In other directions, Harpley was successful in 1959 with the large sculpture Dockworkers for the Lansbury Estate in Poplar, east London, and he won an international competition in



trait memorial to Field Marshal Jan Smuts in Cape Town. These were followed by other public commissions. and portrait commissions, such as Edward Heath ffor the Constitutional Club), Prince Albert of Monaco (for Princess Grace), and Arianna Stassinopoulos.

From the 1970s Harpley taught at Leicester Polytechnic, dividing his time between Leicester and his work in London, Solo shows in Cape Town and Johannesburg were followed in Europe at Breda, Antwerp and Amsterdam, and in London there were two recent shows at the Chris Beetles gallery in 1987 and 1990. Harpley's sculpture is represented in the national galleries of South Africa and New Zealand and in the collection of

Harpley was elected to the fellowship of the Royal Society of British Sculptors in 1963. He was elected an associate of the Royal Academy in 1974 and a Royal Academician in 1981. When the history of figurative sculpture in the twentieth century comes to be written, Harpley's sculpture may be seen as continuing the celebratory domestic naturalism of Italian post-war neo-realism.

In his last years, Harpley moved with his second wife. an art historian and his frequent model, to Co Kilkenny in Ireland.

Sydney Harpley married in 1956 Sally Holliday; they had two sons and a daughter. The marriage was dissolved in 1968. He married his second wife. Jo, in 1981.

Memorial services

Commander Roger Walker and Prince and Princess Michael of Kent by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Christopher Thompson. The Dean of Gloucester offici-

ated. Miss Caroline Gibbs. daughter. Captain Frederick Wills and Mr John Wills, stepsons, read the lessons, and the Dean of St Paul's gave an address. The Bishop of Tewkesbury pronounced the blessing. The Lord Chancellor was represented by Mr R.V. Grobler. Among

Lady Chibts (widow), Sir Geoffrey and Lacy Newman (son-in-law and daugh-ict), Major and Mrs Thomas will stepson and stepdaugher-in-law), Mrs Frederick Wills and Mrs John Wills

(stepdaughters-in-law), Prances New-main, Nicholas, Camilla, Michael, Clare, Richard, Grenta and Emily Wills (grandchildren), Fleid Marshal Str Roland and Lady Globs (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Supert de Zoese (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs Michael Glob (sister), Miss Melissa Gibbs, Mr and Mrs Timpony de Zoese, Major and Mrs Conway Seymour and other members of the family.

other members of the tamby.

Earl and countess Cadogan. Earl and Countess Spencer, Viscount Allenty, Viscount Leverhulme, Lord Ashton of Fryde, Lord and Lady Dickinson, Lord and Lady Calssey, Lord Margadale, Lord Courtensy, Lord Gry of Naumon, Elizabeth Lady Macieun, Lord and Lady Frankswe of Richmond, Anne Lady Frankswe of Richmond, Anne Lady Hollenden, Lord and Lady de Maniley, Lord and Lady Vestry. Heutenam-Colonet Lord Wigram, the Hon Lady Smith-Ryland, Lady Langman, May Lady Bosville Macdonald of Slatz, Sir Michael and Lady Frankskey. Sir Guy and Lady lady Farguhar. Sir Guy and Lady Holland, Sir Hereward and Lady Wake.

Lieumant of Hampshire and Lady Rose, the Land University of U-and Water Street and Woresser (also representing the Loud Hememan of Powys) and Mrs. Dunne, the Lord Heistman of Tyne and West and Lafy Carr-Ellison, the Lord Hememan of County London-dery, the Lord Hememan of Northand Heurenam error, the Lord Heurenam or reasons in the Lord Heurenam of its mersel, the Vice-Lord Heurenam of Warwisshire, the Vice-Lord Heurenam of the War Midlands, the Vice-Lord Heurenam of the War Midlands, the Vice-Lord Heurenam of Gioncestenhire and other leenenam of Gioncestenhire and Gioncestenhire and other leenenam of Gioncestenhire and Gionce

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Patrick Hamilton was held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. Prebendary Norty McCurry officiated. Miss Mary Murphy read the lesson and Lord Renton, QC, and Mr Leonard Miall gave addresses.

Sir Patrick Himming

Among others present were Annoted States present the Annoted Hamilton (widow), Mr and Mrs Janes Porter, Mrs James Porter, Mr Whittank Wing Commander R A Cisy, Mr Gerves Cisy, Mr and Mrs Michael

Trumpington. 1908. Sir David

Baroness Dayld.

Mr Michael Hum and Mr Wycliffe Woodage (Simon Engineering), Mr A Andenton Graesam Controlls, Mr Total Jackson (Disabled Living Foundation). Mr Hugh Remailey (chairman, Winged Fellowship Treson, Mr Robert Lindy Secretary, Cartion Cub, also representing the cheirman), Mr Bert Messie (RADAR), Dr D El-Kabir (Wybann Hall), Mr J Hewin (Expanded Mesal Company), Mr C Smart (Penion and Smart). Mrs I, Miall, Mr and Mrs Andrew Mr John Hippisley also took part. Mrs L Miall, Mr and Mrs Andre

Members of Gloucemershirt Judiciary and Magistracy, the Chairman of Skoncestershirt County Countil and Gloucestershire County Countil and other civic leaders, members of the Church, and representatives from the Royal Navy, the Royal Winshire Yeomanny, the Royal Gloucestershire Hussias, the Royal Wessex Yeomanny, the Gloucestershire Regiment, the RAF, the Porte, the ATC, Gloucestershire Constability and the Her and Partyn Cartest

chairman, Lloyds Bank). Dame Ann Warburton (representing Lucy Cavendish College), Mr Richard David and Baroness David.

Mirt I. Miall, Mr and Mrs Andrew Simon, Mr Henry Simon, Mr and Mrs O. J. H. Simon, Mr and Mrs Christopher Simon, Mrs B. Banham, Mr Tomy Kember, Major-General Thomas Boyd-Carpenier, Mr Brian Davidson, Miss Elizabeth Fansinwe, Mr Roger Miall, Mr and Mrs Derek Gooper, Miss P. A. Crosson-Smith, Professor and Mrs K. S. Holt, Mr Peter Professor and Mrs K. S. Holt, Mr Peter Professor and Mrs K. S. Holt, Mr Peter Strategy S. Mrs Andrews, Mr and Mrs B. M. Andrewson, Mr and Mrs B. M. Andrewson, Mr and Mrs B. M. Andrewson, Mr and Mrs B.

Britons told to quit Libya after plea for **UN** action

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

BRITAIN yesterday urged all its citizens to leave Libya immediately, after the Western allies asked the UN security council to instruct members to cut air links and halt arms sales to Libya.

The official warning, issued by the Foreign Office, comes after consultations between Britain, France and the US on Libya's refusal to comply with a UN resolution demanding the extradition of two Libyans accused of responsibility for the bombing of the Pan Am plane over Lockerbie and a UTA plane over Africa. Western diplo-

Business group boosts Kinnock

Continued from page 1

The Tory supporters included Sir Allen Sheppard, Rocco Forte, Stanley Kalms, Lord King, Robert Scholey and Alan Sugar. They emph-asised that their views were personal and not necessarily those of their companies.

Neil Kinnock yesterday criticised the Tory group of businessmen, arguing that they were acting against the interests of their companies.

Their letter signed by 43 leading business figures argued against a change of government and said the country needed a government which would "put enterprise

Mr Kinnock said that it was significant that few of the businessmen backing the Tories were from construction firms or from manufacturing industry and said that he had noted there were many from the leisure industry. He added: "Given the kind of battering these industries have taken as a result of the recession and the continuing low confidence if they were making their representations on the basis of prospects for their companies alone it is quite unlikely that they would have been writing to The

Letters, page 15

mats said they were confident the measure would gain the required majority of at least nine of the 15 council members, and could pass by Monday. Only China, Morocco and Zimbabwe were likely to abstain or oppose it, they said. Italy, whose embassy in Tripoli looks after British interests, is opposed to such a

Relying on the same mandatory provisions of the UN charter used against Iraq last year, the draft resolution said that within 24 hours of its adoption all states should deny landing rights to planes arriving from or bound for Libya. The supply of aircraft, spare parts and even airline insurance would be pro-

The action comes after an unsuccessful month-long effort by Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary general, to persuade Libya to surrender the suspects — Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah and Abdel Baset Ali al Megrahi as requested by a security council resolution passed in January, Vasili Safronchuk, a special UN envoy, visited Tripoli three times for talks with Colonel Gadaffi, the Libyan leader.

The Foreign Office warning hints that as well as sanotions other unspecified "further steps" could be tak-en, clearly intended to signal en, clearly interaced to signate to Tripoli that military strikes were not ruled out. "In these circumstances the Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises British nationals resident in Libya to consider carefully whether they need to remain in the country. They should bear in mind that there may be no flights to and from Libya following the imposition of sanctions by the security council."

If, despite the warning, the. 5.500 British citizens in Libya decided to stay, they were advised to maintain contact with the British interests section of the Italian embassy. Britain broke relations with Libya in 1984 after the shooting in London of WPC Fletcher. The Foreign Office ing visiting Libya to ask whether their journey was really necessary.



There she blows, Mr Musical's new hope

BY SIMON TAIT ARTS CORRESPONDENT

WHETHER it was the St Trinian's suspender belts or his reputation for a golden touch with musicals, Cameron Mackintosh's latest show, Moby Dick, which opened last night, has won a whale of a lot of publicity.

As far as magazine space, television and radio air time before opening is

concerned, this travesty of Herman Melville's classic novel has far out-paced Miss Saigon, which took £3.5 million to put on against Mohy Dick's

The show, the creation of Robert Longden and Hereward Kaye, em-

erged from Mackintosh's crucible, the Old Fire Station in Oxford, which he set up as a testing house for new ideas. Safe there from the London critics, he safe there from the London critics, he could judge whether a gamble might be a money spinner. This version places the story of the great white whale on the desk of a girls school headmistress, played by Tony Monopoly, who decides to make a speech-day extravaganza of it, with herself as Captain Ahab.

Sixth-formers seize the chance to display yards of stockinged leg, and the show has given a fairy-tale opportunity to a chorus girl. Jenny Galloway was to have played Fifi Clampwell, the older girl who stars in the school show, but a

sore throat kept her away from the first night. Joanne Redman, aged 19 and fresh out of drama school, took over, with the chance to make her name. Nick Allott, Mackintosh's executiv

Nick Allott, Mackintosh's executive producer, said that the hype had taken them by surprise: "Not everything we do is a major musical, and this was intended as a medium-size show, a bit bigger than Five Guys Named Mo."

But in one respect, Moby Dick has already beaten Les Misérables. The Royal Shakespeare Company's production, which has gooe around the world and made fortunes for its creators, opened with advance hookings of opened with advance bookings of £200,000. Moby Dick opened last



Old guards stage a farmyard farce

Continued from page 1

influence over the motherland's affairs". If the meeting had drawn anything like the 1,400 depu-ties who were said to have expressed interest, it might

have been used to legitimise a hardline coup d'étar. But, as soon as it became clear that nothing like that number would attend, participants, ranging from former dissident Roy Medvedev to the "black colonels". Viktor Alksnis and Nikolai Petrushenko, began describing the session in more reassuring terms as a forum for exchanging views and a launching pad for a

But that did not prevent Sazhi Umulatova, the re-markable flaxen-haired woman from the northern Cau-

casus who chaired and dominated the meeting, from proclaiming the opening and, 40 minutes later, closing of the "Sixth Congress of Peoples Deputies".

Proceedings, cut short because the mayor of Voronovo received a stern telephone call from Moscow, increded an emotional real-ing aloud of a letter from Anatoli Lukyanov, the pariamentary chairman who is in jail as a result of last year's attempted coup. The deputies agreed that it had been a mistake to lift the parliamentary immunity of Mr Lukyanov and others suspected of involvement in the coup.

'At the urging of Aleksandr
Obolensky, a Social Democrat who has mysteriously

turned up in the hardline camp, they amended their resolution accepting "the resignation of President Gorbachev" so as to insist that he was still responsible for the

country's woes.

They also elected a standing pracsidium to be headed. Miss Umulatova, whose statuesque elegance and im-passioned oratory were in sharp contrast to the grey, embittered expressions and shabby suits of most other participants. "We have shown to those people who want to dismantle our country that it still exists," she declared, standing in front of a pathetically small Soviet flag pinned to a white screen.

Old guard falls, page 13 The big puzzle of the Mori Leading article, page 15 survey is that it echoes Mr

west Scotland and Northern Ireland will be brighter with showers, heavy in northwest Scotland. This clearer showery weather will

Labour takes five-point poll lead

Continued from page 1

ervative fortunes failed to lift in polls taken immediately after the Budget that it would take longer for the effects of the Chancellor's tax changes to show through. It seems that they have now sunk in and the result has not been to the Tories' advantage among the key C2 skilled working-

In the last Mori survey C2 support was 37 per cent for the Conservatives, 46 per cent for Labour and 11 per cent for the Liberal Democrats. Now exactly half the C2s are backing Labour, with support for the Liberal Democrats up 4 points. Tory support among the C2s has dropped eight points to 29 per cent.

Major's claims by demon-strating a strong recovery in economic optimism. A month ago those who believed that the economy would get worse over the next year outnumbered those who believed it would get better by three points. Now 36 per cent believe the economy will improve over the next year and only 21 per cent believe it will

deteriorate, giving an opti-mism figure of 15 points. Most psephologists accept that there is a close link between economic optimism and support for the govern-ment of the day. The Conservatives will be hoping that the link will hold good once more and that there is simply a little

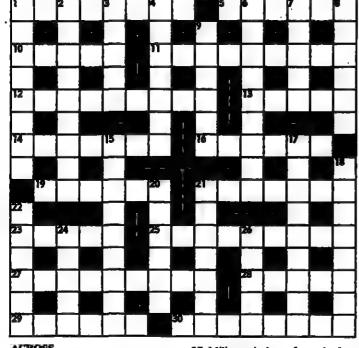
Education and tax were also still firmly on the cam-

paign agenda vesterday. The Conservatives presented their education plans, 39 steps to higher standards, and Mr Major said the proposals would open the way for a modest rise in the number of grammar schools. However, Mr Kinnock said the plans were a "work of fantasy" and regressive. The Tories were, he said, "making proposals now to make changes to which they would never never

subject their own children".
The Conservatives condemned Labour's tax proposals. Mr Major said the plans would destroy the classless society he was striving to create and the real victims would be those on middle incomes. The proposals were, he said. vindictive and self-

Outp

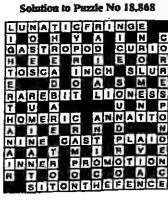
THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,869



AUROSS

- I Press uniform when going on
- 5 Sulphur look at this sample (6) 10 Clergyman off with redhead — see front page (5)
- 11 Sort of carpet Leopold and Dora ordered inside (9) 12 Making up to fill in time (9) 13 Its downfall was observed by 20
- 14 Drugs dealer exposed in letters to
- Church Times (7) 16 The cutter who follows the sewer
- 19 The way an old character sounds
- 21 We hear more than one of the lungs is involved (7)
- 23 Pie. say, giving us short com-mons (5) 25 The question

murderers to book (9)



27 Military jacket of crack fool formation (5-4) 28 Duffer cut off by teacher (5) Run scored off a side at cricket

Series of religious pictures is bound to fold (8)

Into battle with the Lancers? (3-

Remember to go round with the hat again? (9) Figure in a trilby or homburg (5)

"The Complacent American" — what a novel title! (7) 6 Hat that guarantees there are no flies on its wearer? (9)

7 Military band in parade (5) Drive girl up in an hour (6) 9 A reminder to one proceeding

15 Puck gets pushed around by the players in this entertainment (3.6)

17 Sin with young lad delivering goods (6-3) 18 Flounder, perhaps, finding the horizontal angle (4-4)

20 Force that makes an amphibian get on (6) Small NCO up on hill as disciplinary officer (7)

22 As much as any member, left or right, can take (6) 24 Whip hand at the outset grabbed by Chinese society (5) 26 Almost too hard to tear open (5)

Concise crossword, page 13 Life & Times section

A daily safari through the nguage jungle. Which definit are correct?

FOUDROYANT

EUGERIA a. Normal old age b. A Rouss sympl

SILLABUE

Landon & SE

By Philip Howard

Answers on page 16

- AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-

works information, 24 hours a day, deal 0836 401 followed by the

dial 0836 401 followed by

AA Rosdwatch is charged at 35p per minute (chesp rate) and 48p per minute

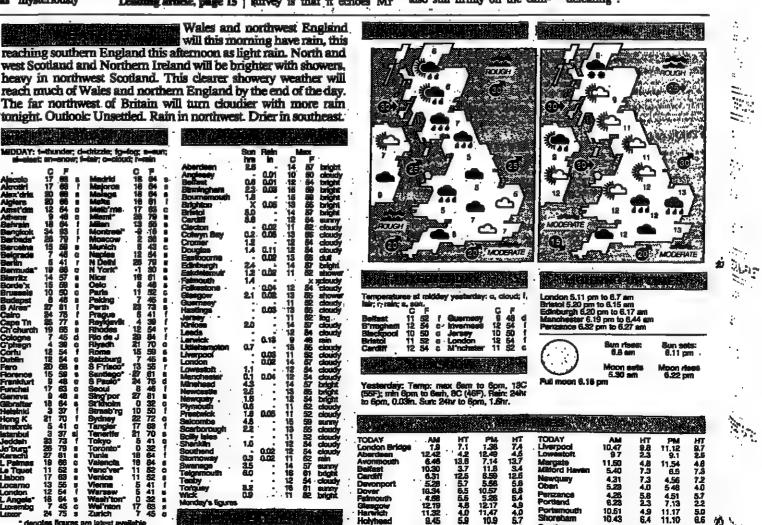
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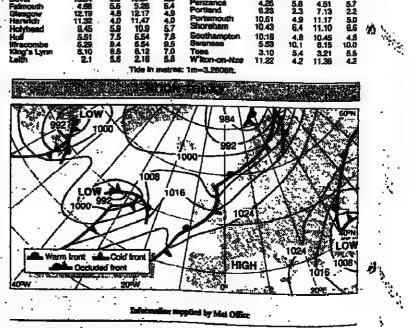
Bank Buys 2,35 21,10 81,93 10,17 2,93 345 11,93 345 11,85 11,85 11,80 255 248,25 3,365 11,80 10,90 10, Bank Sels 219 19.60 57.62 10.68 7.73 3.47 2.79 3.47 2.79 3.10 2.95 11.00 2.95 11.00 2.95 174.50 10.53 9.800 1.88 9.800 1.88

The far northwest of Britain will turn cloudier with more rain tonight. Outlook: Unsettled. Rain in northwest. Drier in southeast. 0.05 000 000 000 .005 21 0.02 0.03 0.02 0.03 0.04 0.06 cloudy cloudy cloudy rain sunny bright cloudy sunny bright

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 9891 500 followed by the appropriate code. by the appropriate code.
Greater London
Kent, Surrey, Sussex
Dorset, Hanns & HOW
Devon & Cornwall
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms
Berks, Bucks, Oxon
Beds, Herts & Essex
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cembe
West Mid & Shr Glam & Gwer
Shrope, Herefds & Worcs
Central Midlands
East Midlands
Lincs & Humberside
Dyfed & Powys
Gwynedd & Cheyd
N W England 702 703 704 705 706 707 Gwynedd & Clwyd
N W England
W & S Yorke & Deles
N E England
Cumbria & Lake District
S W Scotland
W Central Scotland

W Central Sco rámpian & E Highlands. W Scotland





MARLIE



FLATTENED



Federal Express is cutting 3.500 British jobs as it withdraws from its expres delivery service in the UK and Irish Republic, which once employed 8,000. Recession has flattened the express parcel market

FAST BALL

Duniop Slazenger, Europe's biggest squash and tennis ball maker, is expected to be fined by the **European Commission** overcompetition rules Page 21

SIBLING



A report for the Securities and Investments Board recommends a new body to regulate private

investment Page 21

UNDERMINED

A provision against the Channel tunnel project undermined George Wimpey, which lost £16 million last year Page 21

SLOW GROWTH



World trade grew 3 per cent last year, its poorest performance since 1983, Arthur Dunkel, Gatt director-eeneral, says Page 20

THE POUND

1.7340 (+0.0170) German mark 2.8620 (+0.0041) Exchange index 90.2 (+0.3) Bank of England official

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1940.8 (+9.9) FT-SE 100 2491.2 (+20.5) New York Dow Jones 3246.87 (+10.51)* Tokyo Nikkei Avge 19917.63 (+80.47)

INTEREST RATES London: Bank Base, 10½% 3-month Interbank 10¾-10%% 3-month eliorble bits 10°2×10°22% US, Prime Rate 6½% Federal Funds 4 %%**
3 month Treasury Bills 4 07-4.05%*
30-year bonds 99171:99171:

London: £ \$17324 £ DM2.8609	New York: £ \$1 7315" \$ DM1 6525"
€ SwFr2.5890	\$ SwFr1 4955
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£ ECUI 400099	SOR1 25002

London forex market close GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$343 35 pm \$339 00 close \$339 25 339 75 (£195 50-Come: \$339.25-339.75*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr.) \$17.85 bbl (\$17.80

RPI, 135.6 January (1987=100)

RETAIL PRICES Denotes midday trading pnce **WEDNESDAY MARCH 18 1992**

Deal will produce one of the world's largest banks with assets of £145bn

Midland and HK Bank to merge

Neil Bennett reports on the background moves

leading to yesterday sannouncement that two big

names in the banking sector are to join forces

MIDLAND Bank and HSBC Holdings, formerly known as the Hong-kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, have announced they are close to agreeing a £3 billion merger, 15 months after the previous negotiations were abandoned.

The combined bank will be one of the world's largest, with total assets of £145 billion, and a broader spread of international businesses than any of its rivals. The bank will ultimately be based in London.

Schroders, the merchant bank advising HSBC, is now thought to be preparing terms for a share offer for Midland of between 350p and 400p a share, which would value the bank at up to E3.1 billion, and compares with a net asset value of 299p a share. The terms are likely to include a cash alternative, although HSBC has confirmed it has no plans for a rights issue.

A joint statement yesterday morning revealed that the two banks had resumed merger negotiations. The boards of Midland and HSBC have agreed that a merger of the two groups would now be in the best interests of both companies and their shareholders," it said. "It is envisaged that the

a recommended offer by HSBC for Midland which would value the shares at a corrent market price of 253p." Midland's shares soared by 87p to 340p on the news before settling back at

329p.

Details of the offer are expected to be published within three months, although the hanks said no timetable has

Speculation about a bid for Midland had resurfaced in the City in recent weeks. Both Lloyds Bank and BAT Industries have been suggested as possible buyers, as well as a number of continental banks. The statement and the likelihood of an agreed offer from HSBC will now deter rival offers, but neither bank is ruling out the possibility of a counter bid.

HSBC resumed merger talks with Midland after its results at the end of last month. These were better than expected, with profits rising from £11 million to £36 million. City analysts had been expecting a heavy loss:

The two banks abandoned plans for a merger in Decem-ber 1990 due to rising problems in their own operations caused by bad debts. Now however, Midland and HSBC are thought to have overcome the worst of their HSBC has also had problems with Marine Midland, its American subsidiary, and the Hongkong Bank of Australia, which have both fallen into losses due to bad debt provisions. Losses are now falling in both operations, however, and the bank continues to benefit from the strong growth in Hong Kong's economy.

One adviser said there was a real impetus behind the ^ain 1990, both banks were focused on their own domestic problems and cold not see beyond the next four weeks," he said, "Now both banks feel it is the right time to merge."

The banks have been linked since 1987 when HSBC bought a 14.9 per cent stake in Midland for £383 million. Since then, HSBC and Midland have swapped a series of overseas businesses and formed electronic links. through which the two banks' customers can use cash machines and transfer funds throughout the world.

said the banks had issued the statement because they wanted to begin due diligence procedures before announc-ing a formal offer and there was a risk that the merger plans would leak.

HSBC is keeping the Bank of England informed since

THE negotiations between neither will yield ground easi-HSBC and Midland will rely ly. Sir Peter and Mr Purves turned it down when the bank heavily on the personalities of joined their respective employ-

their respective chairmen, ers. Hongkong Bank and BP, the the fourth

kong Bank five years later.

While Mr Purves has fo-

cused his efforts inside his

bank, Sir Peter has always had

a wide range of interests and is

director of SmithKline Bee-

cham and Thorn EMI. He

was offered the chairmanship

chairman of Blue Circle and a

In many ways it will be a Purves took charge of Hong-

stake and three

opposition to the acquisition

tutions A spokesman for Midland companies. The proposed merger will

in 1981, HSBC's bid for the central bank has the right to veto any takeover. The Bank has repeatedly stated its the Royal Bank of Scotland was blocked by the MMC. The commission said that the

of core British financial instiby · overseas

In 1990, however, Hong-kong Bank set up a Brush also be examined by a series of regulators and could be subjected to an enquiry by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission or the European Commission's competition directorate.

the Royal Bank of Scotland

Mr Purves has long planned

secure the bank's future after

China takes over Hong Kong

in 1997. Sir Peter, meanwhile,

knows that Midland, which is

still suffering the effects of the

recession, has few prospects as

an independent institution in

the single European market

but could prosper as part of a larger well-capitalised group.

ownership of the Royal Bank of Scotland ourside Britain would act against public

registered holding company for the group, called HSBC Holdings. HSBC will try to reassure the Bank of England that control of Midland is not moving overseas and the group will move its headquarters to London by the middle

Walters: longtime oilman

over of Midland. Tough chairmen present contest of opposites

TWELVE TROUBLE-TORN YEARS AT MIDLAND

huge losses overseas.
The bank announced its

John Mulahy, research director of Peregrine Securities, said: "We have been expecting Hongkong Bank to make

Colony surprised at merger timing

FROM LULUYU IN HONG KONG

SHARES in HSBC Holdings are expected to tumble today despite Hongkong Bank's assurance that there will be no rights issue to finance its take-

Last night, analysts in Hong Kong were surprised and sceptical about the merger, which could weaken Hongkong Bank just after it has recovered from a spate of

intention to bid for Midland after the local market closed yesterday. The decision to make a share offer for Midland will depress its share price, which closed at HK\$44.50 (336p) yesterday. In London trading later it slipped to 313p.

a move on Midland, either to

Maine-Tucker

Recruitment Consultants

raise the stake or to sell it. The timing seems sensible." Last week, Hong Kong's

analysts applauded the bank's results, in which group earnings rose 71 per cent to a record HK\$6.77 billion due to reduced losses in America and Australia and continuing growth in Hong Kong. The results prompted Moody's, the credit rating agency, to confirm its ratings for the bank, which had faced a downgrading.

A Hongkong Bank spokesman said "a rights issue is not contemplated". While hoth banks were not ready about a year ago because each had their own problems, the situation had changed, he said "HSBC group's performance has recovered strongly. The Midland group has also made encouraging progress."

Mutual benefit, page 23

Output declines 1.3%

contest of opposites. Mr

who rose through the ranks at

HSBC. Sir Peter is an oilman,

who spent 36 years at BP and

came to banking late in life.

Both men are 61 and both are

known for their tough negoti-

ating ability, however, and

Purves: longtime insider

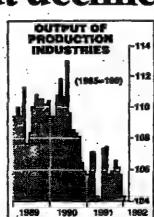
GOVERNMENT figures showed a 1.3 per cent drop in Britain's industrial output in January, fuelling City fears that the longest recession since the early Thirties could continue this quarter.

The production data were accompanied by disappointing figures on government finances, which confirmed the deterioration that Norman Lamont, the Chancellor. reported in the Budget.

The government sought to dismiss the output figures, underlining their backwardlooking nature.

Manufacturing saw output fall a further 0.7 per cent in January after a revised decline of 0.4 per cent in December.

The surprisingly large Jan-uary fall in overall industrial production, which includes the energy sector, also followed an 0.4 per cent decline in December. Energy output



fell 2.7 per cent in January. The broader data compare the latest three months with the previous three. Industrial output was down 0.7 per cent in the latest three months and 0.6 per cent lower on an annual basis.

Manufacturing was 0.9 per cent and 3.3 per cent lower respectively for the same periods. The recession had lasted six successive quarters by the end of 1991, but the latest

concern about the effects of weakening demand for Brii-ish goods at home and Gerard Lyons, chief econo-

mist at DKB international, said: "Recession goes on, with no light yet visible at the end of the tunnel." Robert Lind, economist at UBS Phillips & Drew, said the output data showed that the "trend is on a The public sector borrow-

ing requirement in February was a provisional £963 mil-lion after a repayment of £3.76 billion in January. This brought the cumulative PSBR to £7.4 billion for the first 11 months of fiscal 1991-92, up 11.1 per cent from the same period in 1990-1. The February figures included £809 million in receipts from the second instalment of the disposal of the electricity .. generating

American outlook improves

BY OUR ECONOMICS

THE biggest monthly rise in American housing starts since March 1990 indicated rediscovered consumer confidence and recovery. Starts rose 9.6 per cent in February.

Industrial output rose 0.6 per cent last month, says the Federal Reserve, after three cline. Consumer prices rose 0.3 per cent, the strongest monthly rise for three The American current ac-

count deficit fell to \$8.62 for nearly a decade. ☐ Australia has officially emerged from its 18-month recession. National account last year showed a growth increase of 0.3 per cent after a . 0.1 per cent gain in the third

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US oilmen drill London for cash

By MARTIN BARROW

THE optimism of the oil and gas industry knows no bounds. Every exploration company, regardless of size, lives for the day when a single mammoth discovery will transform it overnight. Oil prices are always on the verge of a sharp recovery and gas is the fuel of the future.

Oil barons never tire of telling the world that a recovery is just round the corner. And over the years there has been no shortage of investors - generally with more money than sense - eager to take part in this adventure, anxious not to miss out on The Big One.

At least, that has been the case until recently. Now the money has dried up. Potential investors are no longer enthralled by tales of promising surveys and exciting geological tests. Market rumours of a big find in Texas and Colombia no longer create a buzz thousands of miles away in the City of London. Even the likes of BP and Lasmo

are no longer considered risk-free, and their shares have dived. Minnows such as Richmond Oil and Gas. Teredo Petroleum and Exploration Company of Louisiana, whose strong American bias set the City alight during the bull mar-ket, are reduced to penny stocks.

Yet none of this deters American energy companies, quoted and unquoted, from continuing to look to London to

Yesterday, six of their number enticed British financial institutions to a conference at the Waldorf Hotel to outline their plans and raise money. All spoke of the difficulties of raising money in America, yet expressed confidence that London would give them a favourable hearing. Old habits die hard.

Ramco Oil and Gas Inc, a production company, enjoyed close links with New York Life, which invested \$140 million in its ventures. Now Ramco is obliged to seek funds elsewhere. Rolf Hufnagel. senior vice-president, described the

American capital market as "a roller-coaster". Mark Kelldorf, president of Arkoma Basin Exploration, said: "No one has got any money to spend." Nor has London for that matter. But

Tom Price, a vice-president of Chesapeake Operating Inc. said London was "the pre-eminent financial centre in this part of the world" and he was here to 'try to engender understanding" in the American oil industry. And, presumably, raise some money. Chesapeake has drilled 114 wells in Texas and Oklahoma, 103 of which are in commercial production, and has identified a further 250 undeveloped drill sites, for which funds are actively being sought.

Chris Tate, whose company, Maclean and Associates, staged the conference, is aware of the hostile investment environment in the oil and gas sector in Britzin and is philosophical about his chents' prospects.

"If you you don't ask, you don't get

Gatt expects modest 4% growth in world trade

By Colin Narbrough, economics correspondent

A MODEST recovery in world trade may be under way, but volume growth in goods is only expected to pick up to about 4 per cent this year after three consecutive years of slowdown, according to Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

In his annual report on international trade developments, out today, the Gatt chief says that merchandise trade grew about 3 per cent in volume terms last year, its poorest performance since 1983. There was an increase of only 1.5 per cent to \$3,530 billion, the smallest annual increase in value terms since

Exchange in Tokyo to lift fees

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

TOKYO Stock Exchange is to raise fees it charges listed companies and member brokerages in a move to redress its serious revenue shortage, said Minoru Nagaoka, the chairman. From April 1, the based on their capital size, will be tripled on average, while an annual fee for listed companies and a fee for newly isted firms will be doubled Mr Nagaoka said.

The exchange expects the fee increases to boost revenue by 6.48 billion yen (£28.2 million), balancing revenue and expenditures for the fiscal year starting on April 1.

The exchange looks for a Y9.21 billion deficit for the year ending March 31, due to slumping stock prices and shrinking volume. It posted a deficit of Y9.9 billion in 1990-1. - In February, daily first-section volume averaged 196 million shares traded, breaking below 200 million shares for the first time since

Asked about the need to inject energy into the flagging market. Mr Nagaoka said he hoped the government would take action to bolster the economy and relax investor worries. "There are no more easures the TSE can take to stabilise the market." The exchange has already relaxed regulations on margin trad-ing to the limit, he said.

1985. Incomplete data for the second half of last year points, however, to the deceleration in world trade having bottomed out and a "modest recovery" already in progress. The report notes that export and import volumes picked up in leading economies such as America, Canada and

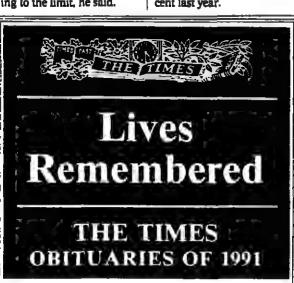
Gatt estimates show that growth in exports of commercial services, in value terms, also slowed last year, but that they remained more buoyant than trade in goods. Services were up 5 per cent at \$850 billion. The deadlocked Uruguay round of world trade talks include freer trade in services in the multilateral trading framework for the

The sharp slowdown in world trade growth in value terms last year, after 13.5 per cent expansion in 1990, was attributed to weaker volume growth, the impact of dollar appreciation against the ecu, and lower prices for a number of primary commodities, in-cluding oil, since the end of

Mr Dunkel's report shows America recapturing the title of the world's leading goods exporter that it lost to Ger-many in 1989. Germany's trade pattern was heavily distorted by the impact of unification. Western Europe saw exports shrink 1.5 per cent in value terms, mainly reflecting German developments. American exports, benefiting from low inflation and low wage growth in America, rose 7.5 per cent in value, five times the world average. while German exports dropterms. The strongest regional growth in trade was regis-tered in Asia. Hong Kong replaced the former Soviet Union as the tenth biggest

ехропет. The weakest performance came from the countries emerging from the collapsed Soviet empire, where the value of exports and imports slumped by 20 per cent and

Britain held on to its place as the world's fifth largest exporter and importer, trailing America, Germany, Jaan and France on Dot fronts. But the value of Britain's imports, which grew 13 per cent in 1990, fell 6 per cent last year.



Obituaries are news, and The Times has greatly increased the space devoted to them each day. From the 900 or so published last year David Heaton and John Higgins have selected some 180 to provide a fascinating insight into the lives of all sorts of conditions of men and

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Reflecting on a hard fight: Geoffrey Dale, of Evans Halshaw, saw profits slip in hostile conditions

Evans Halshaw battles to £3.86m

By PHILIP PANGALOS

DESPITE the depressed conditions affecting its markets, Evans Halshaw Holdings, the multi-franchise motor dealer that is based in Birmingham, managed to contain the decline in full-year profits to a mere 6 per cent.

Pre-tax they slipped from £4.11 million to £3.86 million in the year to end-December. while sales, reflecting national trends, declined 11.2 per cent to a total of £339.7

Geoffrey Daie, chairman. said the performance was satisfactory in a year that saw "unprecedented falls" in new vehicle markets and "hostile" trading conditions generally.

Mr Dale said that all deal-

erships experienced reduced demand for new vehicles, although sales of luxury cars were "substantially" On a brighter note, used

car sales increased by 15 per cent, while profits from aftermarket services, including service and forecourts, advanced by 15 per cent. Commercial vehicles suffered a 29 per cent downturn, sliding to one of the lowest levels for

With industry forecasters anticipating an increase in car and truck sales in 1992. Mr Dale is optimistic on He said that delayed re-

the group's fleet customers means that there is pent-up demand, while the changes in car taxation announced in the Budget are positive.

Interest payments were reduced to £3.24 million (£4.52 million). Earnings per share slipped to 11.7p (12.3p). The final dividend is being mainnained at 7.65p, making an unchanged total of 11.25p

The shares rose 9p to 285p.

France launches enquiry into Glaxo drug publicity

BY WOLFGANG MUNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE French government is launching an investigation into the way Glaxo, the British pharmaceutical glant, is publicising allegedly Imigran, the potent anti-mi-graine drug, in France.

Imigran does not yet have

French government approval, which prevents Glaxo from marketing the drug, but awareness of Imigran is considerable after much publicity in the French media. Glaxo said: "We have not

received direct communication from the French government. If the reports we hear are correct, we would be sur-prised that the standing and the reputation of our French subsidiary has been put into question." News of the invesgation led to a fall of Giaxo shares on the London stock

market by 12p to 771p.
Imigran is presently undergoing various approval procedures, a prerequisite for the official launch of a drug. France has some of the lowest pharmaceutical prices in Europe, and manufacturers need to negotiate prices with the French government. The French social affairs and health ministries, responsible for drug approval, are under-stood to be concerned at the likely high demand for the drug and the expected additional cost this would pose for the health insurance system.

Imigran is one of Glaxo's most important new drugs and will carry a hefty price, stimated about £7 per pill, or £350 for an annual treat-ment. This includes a significant margin to recoup the research and development costs, between £130 million and £150 million. Imigran forms a key element in the strategy of Sir Paul Girolami, chairman of Glaxo, to compensate for the slowdown in the growth of sales of Zantac. the world best selling drug.

The French government is trying to establish whether Glaxo acted improperly by promoting its drug through the French media, while it was still undergoing the official approval process. The enquiry into Glaxo's marketing methods will be carried out by what the government calls independent academics. The

issue could then be referred to the EC competition directorare that would find it difficult to ignore such a plea by the French government after strong criticism for having concentrated its efforts to investigate breaches of competition rules committed by French companies. The

French government recently forced a 20 per cent price cut for Zocor, an anti-cholesterol drug made by Merck, the Ameriacn company, because sales exceeded initial

Letters, page 23



Key player: Sir Paul Girolami is looking to Imigran

Belgian group pays £8m for Cresta

CRESTA Holidays, a leading short-breaks tour operator with sales of more than £30 groups in Europe.

Main shareholder in holding company for Cresta Holidays, is John Goulding, the holiday company's founder managing director. pany. The eventual payout

Bridge Group is market leader in short-break holl-days, typically to leading Eu-ropean cities. Thomson Holidays is second, and Cresta third, in this niche market, which has been a buoyant sector in package holidays.

Last year, Cresta carried more than 100,000 passengers, an annual growth of a quarter. The private company has had steadily increasing profits in recent years, says Sun International Mark Vanmoerkerke, chairman of Sun International's UK arm. and general manager of the Belgian operation, said he expected further turnover increases at Cresta this year.

BY DENEW HASHIN

million a year, has been sold for about £8.5 million to Sun International, of Belgium, one of the largest travel

Cresta World Travel, the Some Cresta managers have limited holdings in the comquent profit performance.
The entire Cresta team, led

by Mr Goulding, will may on and the company will contin-ue to be based at Altrincham. Cheshire. It will be a separate operation from Bridge Group, Sun's other main UK

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Paterson takes charge of £1m against profits

PATERSON Zochonis, the Cussons soap and toiletries group, has taken a £i million hit against interim profits earned in the six months to end-November because, in the past two weeks, the Nigerian naira has fallen 40 per cent. PZ, which is as famous for its cash mountain as it is for its Cussons range, continues to earn more in investment income than in operating profits.

In the half year to end-November, gross investment income was £7.41 million (£8.25 million) compared with operating profits of £6.03 million (£4.91 million). Pre-tax profit for the period rose to £11.63 million (£11.25 million), on turnover of £113.9 million (£108.5 million), and the interim dividend rises to 2.25p (2.15p) a share. PZ said that year-end pre-tax profits were likely to be broadly in line with the £25.4 million earned in the year ended May 1991. The shares were steady at 395p.

Savage bounces back
REDUCED interest costs helped Savage Group, the DIY
shelving company, to return to the black with a pre-tax profit of £676,000 in the six months to end-December (£816,000 loss) on turnover of £37.8 million (£62.5 million). Interest costs were £746,000 (£2.23 million) with gearing of 38 per cent (45 per cent). The company said further benefits were expected from cost savings. The loss per share is 0.3p (3.7p deficit). There is again no interin. The board sees a return to ordinary dividends this uper. The charge rose in to 4.2n ordinary dividends this year. The shares rose 1p to 43p.

Hillsdown buys Holco

THE reorganisation of two of Britain's food groups, Albert Fisher and Hillsdown Holdings, continues with the sale of Holco, Albert Fisher's mushroom and asparagus processing company, to Hillsdown for £11.7 million cash. The company is being acquired by Hillsdown International, the European arm. The deal includes fixed assets, debtors, stock, the Holco brand name and Holco Konserven Vertriebe, the German sales company. Hillsdown shares rose 3p to 177p and Albert Fisher shares were unchanged at 67p.

Cray wins Navy work

SHREWSBURY Technology, a subsidiary of Cray Electronics, has won a multimillion pound contract for work on Royal Navy Invincible class aircraft carriers and Type 22 frigates. The company will support technical and engineering aspects of an electronic surveillance system. The contract, won against competition from several other contractors, is initially for a year but likely to last for three. Admiral Sir Brian Brown, a Cray director, said it underlined the company's commitment to the defence business.

Ernest Green slumps

SHARES in Ernest Green and Partners Holdings, the structural and civil engineering consultancy, fell 21p to 99p as the company blamed the continuing deep recession gripping the UK construction industry for a 69 per cent slump in first-half, pre-tax profits. The USM-quoted company's profits plunged to £342,000 (£1.11 million) in the six months to end-December, on turnover down 30.7 per per 54.02 million Exprises slide to 2.8 per them (8.2). cent to E4.03 million. Earnings slide to 2.9p a share (8.8p) but the interim dividend is being maintained at 2.75p.

Graseby rises to £10m

ACQUISITIONS helped Graseby, the electronics group, lift profits from E7.7 million before tax to £10.3 million in 1991. Tace and Goring Kerr contributed £3 million to trading profits of £13.24 million (£11.8 million) in five months as fully-owned subsidiaries. Earnings rose to 13.8p a share (11.9p), but Graseby is maintaining the 10.9p total dividend with an unchanged 7.6p final, reflecting its cautious view of trading prospects. Trading margins rose from 9.9 per cent to 12.3 per cent.

Wellworth to be sold

ISOSCELES, the supermarket group that owns Gateway and Somerfield, will float FA Wellworth, its Northern Ireland supermarket chain. The group also confirmed it intended to sell Hermans, his American sports shop chain. Isosceles, which has £1.3 billion of debt, is due to repay £158 million in the next two years, with £100 million due in April next year. Hermans, with 259 stores, is valued on the balance sheet at £200 million. In the six months to November 9 1991, it made a trading loss of \$7.2 million

ICI issues notes

ICI is raising \$225 million through an issue of 75 per cent guaranteed notes due in March 1997, initially offered to the public at \$99.81. The notes are to be issued by ICI Wilmington, an American subsidiary, and will be unconditionally guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by ICI. Merrill Lynch and Goldman Sachs are co-managers, and JP Morgan Securities and Morgan Stanley are also underwriters. Net proceeds will be used by the ICI group for the early repayment of existing debt.

Refuge raises payout

PROFITS at Refuge, the life assurance and financial services group, slipped 9 per cent to £12.6 million last year due to bad-debt provisions at its personal finance subsidiary. due to bad-debt provisions at its personal mance subsidiary. The group is nevertheless increasing its final dividend by 1.5p to 20p to make 29p for the year, up 8 per cent. Refuge made a £2.7 million provision at RLJ Finance, its personal loans business: The core life assurance business by contrast increased profits 13 per cent to £15.1 million as premium income gained 13 per cent to £213 million.

Europe dials up telephone deregulation

hat number do you dial for the fire brigade if your at gade if your chalet goes up in flames when you are on holiday abroad? And what do you do if the phone is "cards only"? The EC's solution to this and other telecommunications problems is to harmonica. By 1002 is to harmonise. By 1993, it wants its member states to all use the same emergency number - 112. And, when technology permits, it wants phone cards to work Europe-

By the year 2000, the EC's telecommunications industry could double in value and generate about 7 per cent of the Community's gross domestic product. officially published EC estimates show. If firms can offer uniform equipment and services EC-wide, economies of scale will mean savings of 10 billion ecus (£7.14 billion) in a market worth E80 billion in

For these reasons there have been many moves to promote standard equipment and ground rules, and edicts for deregulation of the industry at Community level.

Brian Love says the EC's telecommunications industry has high growth potential, provided member states forgo their present monopolies us in 1993," one said. "The

The European Commission's most potent actions have been unilateral decisions to allow private firms to challenge the traditional monopoly of state companies. But some standardisation pro-posals depend as much on technological advances as on agreement by ministers to get industry to develop EC-

One plan to promote wider access to the telecommunications of the future - like integrated services digital networks (ISDN) — will allow the transmission of voice. data or video material along a single cable rather than separately as now. But industry sources say ISDN tech-nology itself will not be ready for full-scale application until after 1995.

Diplomats engaged in ne-

gotiating new standards

agree. "It's not going to hit

technology isn't there yet." Liberalisation has already started, however, and has been vigorously enforced. An edict issued in mid-1988 means national telephone companies, which have long enjoyed a state-granted monopoly over almost every-thing to do with telecommunications, no longer have exclusive rights to supply equipment such as

switchboards. Another set of commission-imposed rules followed in 1990 and will be fully phased in by the end of the year to enshrine the right of private firms to use leased telecommunications lines to offer any service other than voice transmission.

phones. fax machines or

While phone-calls - handled exclusively, except in Britain, by state monopolies

represent about 90 per cent of income from telecoms services, data transmission and other value-added services are seen as the major growth sectors. Sir Leon Brittan, competition commissioner, recently said the commission would review policy on voice telephony as soon as an enquiry into the cost of phone calls was completed, hinting for the first time that a crack at monopolies in that area was due. The European Court of Justice has backed the commission's right to apply EC competi-tion rules to sidestep government approval and unila-

The rest of EC telecommunications policy is run by Filippo Pandolfi, EC commissioner, and is mainly in the form of proposals that need backing pondent based in Brussels

terally liberalise the sector.

from national capitals and take more time to take effect. His most significant project so far is a green paper aimed at gradual liberalisation to give private firms access to spare satellite capacity to set up private internal communication links such as international tele-conferencing

The satellite green paper, seen as a blueprint for future proposals to liberalise the sector, emerged in late-1990 and has yet to get political endorsement from EC member states. EC diplomats say that despite support from countries such as Germany and Britain, the paper will meet stiff resistance from France and other countries that fear fresh cuts in the incomes of their national telecommunications bodies. General agreement on the paper will have to be fol-lowed by negotiation on a string of legislative proposals and diplomats said liberal-

The writer is a Reuters corres-

way off.

isation of this type is a long

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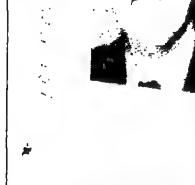
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Federal Express sale of UK arm costs 3,500 jobs

FEDERAL Express, the troubled American express delivery service, is axing 3,500 jobs in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic as it withdraws from much of its domestic and inter-European

FedEx's UK domestic parcels distribution business is being sold to Securicor Omega Express, the express parcels arm of Security Services. Security Services is 51 per cent owned by Securicor and is the largest private-sector operator in the £1.6 billion UK express parcels business.

Securicor Omega claims a market share of 12 per cent and last year had sales of £208 million. In a cash deal, it is paying £2.6 million for goodwill and £4.5 million for assets of FedEx. Part of the deal is a 250-strong vehicle fleet. The FedEx domestic parcels turnover in the first two months of this year indicates the business will have an annual turnover of more than E40 million.

in a separate contract agreement, FedEx UK collections and deliveries outside London will be carried out by Securicor Omega while the UK arm of Australia's TNT will be the contractor for deliveries within the Irish

Mail's Parcelforce has a thini

ALL private investment

should be regulated by one

dations made in Sir Kenneth

Clucas's report for the Securi-

ties and Investments Board

The report, published yes-

terday, says a new self-regula-tory organisation should be

created to cover all the busi-

ness regulated by the Finan-

cial Intermediaries Man-

agers and Brokers Regulatory

Association and the Life As-

surance and Unit Trust Reg-

business conducted with pri-

vate investors by Investment

Management Regulatory

Organisation members and

some clients of the Securities

Sir Kenneth also recom-

mends that the direct regula-

tion of about 100 companies

by SIB should be reviewed and that recognition should be withdrawn from the Insur-

ance Brokers Registration

Council. To change their res-

legislation.

ulation status would require

A consumer panel should

be set up with the right to

enquire into, policies of the

new regulatory body, and the

and Futures Authority.

flat for some time because of the recession. Securicor Omega claims it has gained business through an improving market share.

Last month, FedEx said it was actively looking to restructure its international operations to reduce losses. The bulk of its problems have been in Europe and the UK where at one time it employed about 8,000 people.

A year ago nearly 2,000 UK jobs went as it introduced several closures. Last autumn it agreed to sell back to Littlewoods, the privately-owned UK retailer, the Home Delivery Service that specialises in mail order

The additional retrenchment now anhounced will leave FedEx still offering an intercontinetal service from 16 cities across Europe, including, some in the UK.

About 800 people will be retained in the UK. FedEx will maintain its UK

headquarters at High Wyoombe together with a Coventry operation, its collection and delivery services at Enfield, Vauxhall and Heathrow, and its airport facilities at Prestwick, Stansted and

Frederick Smith, FedEx Corporation president, said:

One watchdog proposed

for private investment

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

number of public interest members of the new organ-

isation's board should be suf-

ficient that they can con-

stitute a majority with either

the product providers or the

Sir Kenneth also recom-

mends that the chairman of

the new self-regulatory organ-

isation should come from out-

side the industry. It will be up

to the inembers of Fimbra.

Lautro, Imro and the SFA

whether the proposals to

streamline and make more

effective investor protection

independent practitioners.

of the market, has been fairly . service have been extremely costly and we have not generated adequate revenues to cover our costs. In addition, the market in Europe has not developed express traffic as quickly as we had expected." FedEas business logistics service is not affected by the

> There are to be 3,372 jobs lost in England, Scotland and Wales, 37 in Northern Ireland and 125 in the Republic. Securicor Omega said that, subject to review, it may re-cruit some FedEx personnel made redundant.

Securicor Omega will be the sole contractor for the FedEx international parcels from Britain, outside the M25 area. Roger Wiggs, Secunity Services chief executive, commented: These agree-ments afford us an excellent opportunity to expand our UK domestic parcels business and to offer all our customers intercontinental services in association with a leading international carrier."

TNT Express Worldwide said that as a FedEx subcontractor it would handle inbound deliveries from America and the rest of the world in some ten European countries. It added that mestic French business, has

go ahead. There could be

resistance from Lautro and

Imro members who will not

want to foot the bill for

compensating the customers

Godfrey Jillings, chief exec-

utive of Fimbra, said: "We

give the report a warm and

Kit Jebens, chief executive of Lautro, said: "It seems to

us from an investor protec-

tion point of view a good idea.

It is up to the membership

tive of Imro, said: "The board

of Imro would not welcome

my suggestion that the scope

of Imro should be narrowed."

The report suggests that

about 30 per cent of its mem-

bership should transfer to the

Sir David Walker, chair-

man of SIB, said: "The case

for a new SRO, to reduce

fragmentation and improve

the robustness of the regula-tory structure, is compellingly

made out." The report recom-

mends that the new SRO

should be set up to shadow

the work of the existing SROs

until it was ready to take over

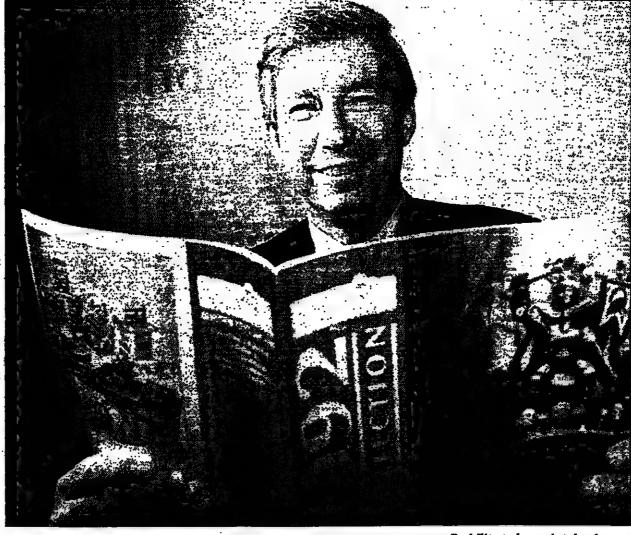
whether it will go ahead."

II MOTESI

new SRO.

of brokers.

strong welcome."



Looking on the bright side: Torquil Norman, chairman, expects recent profitability to be maintained

Bluebird tumbles deeper into red

BY MATTHEW BOND

BUOYANT overseas sales compensated Bluebird Toys for dismal domestic demand in 1991. Orders from abroad rose by half to £11 million, and now account for more than a quarter of the quoted

toymaker's sales.
The improvement was not sufficient, however, to prevent a pre-tax loss of 43.5 million for the year to December 31, compared with a loss of £856,000 last time. For the second year, there is no final dividend.

Torquii Norman, chairman, was encouraged by the company's performance in the second half, which produced a pre-tax profit of \$224,000 against just £924,000, against just £40,000 last time.

"In the light of the better outlook for overseas sales and steps taken to rationlise our UK operations, the board is confident - bearing in mind our normal seasonal trading pattern — of contin-uing progress," he said. Most of the loss has been

caused by restructuring costs, which have been taken as a 🕄 5 million exceptional as a 53.5 million exceptional item. Rationalising the product range, including writing off tooling and artwork, cost £2.2 million and moving Peter Pan Playthings from Peterborough to Merthyr Tydfil cost £1.2 million.

The group now has one factory, at Merthyr Tydfil, and one administration site, at Swindon. A Hong Kong

at Swindon. A Hong Kong office is responsible for Far East production and distribution. Despite tight stocking by

retailers, the company man-aged to reduce year-end stocks by half to £4.4 million.

Dunlop Slazenger to be fined by EC for operating a cartel

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

DUNLOP Slazenger International, the EC's biggest maker of squash and tennis balls, has fallen foul of Community competition rules and will be fined by the European

Sources close to the commission confirmed that Sir Leon Brittan's competition investigators had found that Dunlop Slazenger, part of the BTR group, operated an exclusive distribution cartel on the Continent and went to extraordinary lengths to stop its goods being sold by nonauthorised sports shops. "It's

The size of the fine has not

Finance in place for £690m power station

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE £690 million private gas-fired power station at Barking planned by Thames Power, in which BICC, the cables to construction group, has an interest, was given final approval with the com-

One of the lenders is the European Investment Bank. talling £200 million, the first financing from the bank for a power project in Britain.

Thames Power is halfowned by BICC and ATCO, the Canadian utilities concern, and has a 51 per cent stake in the station. Three regional electricity companies, Southern, Eastern and London, own the rest and have agreed to take the power produced when the plant

opens in April 1995. Building at the site, near the River Thames, will start on July I this year. Yesterday was the final deadline for the financing to be put in place under the terms of the 15year supply contract agreed with British Gas. The station has to build an 18km (10 miles) pipeline to transport the fuel from the national transmission system operated by British Gas.

BICC and the Canadians are putting in equity funding of £94.4 million. A syndicate credit of £661 million.

The scheme is only the sixth independent power genera-tion project in Britain to reach such an advanced stage, after dozens were planned in the run-up to the privatisation of the electricity industry. Another three projects are awaiting firm

financing. Robin Biggam, chairman of BICC and Thames Power, said: "The project has not been without its difficulties." The site had to be moved, a former chief executive quit, and there was a wrangle with commission is entitled to impose a penalty of up to 10 per cent of a company's annual

The competition directorate decided to investigate Dunlop Slazenger after re-Newitt, a British sports goods distributor, which claimed that it was prevented from buying Dunlop Slazenger equipment in Britain for resale on the Continent.

The commission has taken a tough line against companies trying to prevent so-called "parallel imports" if they then establish networks of dealerships that set widely different prices from one country to another.

Dunlop Slazenger was found to have bought back its products from companies it did not want to sell them, and also to have undercut unwanted exporters with the aim of pricing them out of the

The company has operated its illegal system since 1977. according to commission sources, who said the Benelux market had been the one most affected.

BTR, which is looking hard at its expanded operations after the takeover of Hawker Siddeley, says its 59 per cent indirect Interest in Hawker Siddeley Canada and its 41 per cent stake in that company's preferred shares is under review.

BTR has undertaken to cut gearing from its 89 per cent level at the end of December and earlier this week announced two asset sales for £33.1 million.

Selling Hawker Siddeley Canada could raise up to £107 million

Wimpey in loss but pegs dividend

tracting company, has reported a pre-tax loss of £16. million for 1991, after making a £12 million provision against its involvement in the Channel tunnel project and writing down its house-building and commercial property assets by more than £100 million.

The losses compare with a £43.3 million profit in 1990. Wimpey shares, however, rose lop to 147p, for the company maintained its final dividend at 6.5p (giving an unchanged total of 10.5p). That required a £30.5 million

transfer from reserves.
Sir Clifford Chetwood, chairman, said business in the UK and America was

improving.
In the first quarter, the company's house sales in Britain have been 10 per cent ahead of expectations; even stronger recovery is indicated in America.

Joe Dwyer, chief executive, said the group's positive cash flow of £107 million had been important in its decision to pay an uncovered dividend for the second year running.

Since Mr Dwyer succeeded Sir Clifford as chief executive lo months ago, the company has raised about £300 million from disposals. It has sold a waste management business for £105 million and a 50 per cent interest in a City office development for £110

Tempus, page 22

Trace jumps

Trace Computers, a computer software group, lifted pre-tax profits from £31,000 to £221,000 in the six months to November 30, despite turnover slightly lower at £9.72 million, against £9.95 million last time. Earnings per share jump to 1.59p, up from 0.06p a share last time. The interim dividend is being maintained at 0.55p.

Celestion down

Celestion Industries, a clothgroup, is maintaining its single dividend at 1.2p, despite a pre-tax loss of £1.06 million in the year to December 31 against a profit of £951,000. Sales fell by 12 per cent to £36.6 million. Charles Ryder, chief executive, expects the group to make a strong recovery" this year.

Bid cleared

Carlton Communications E68 million bld for Pickwick a music and videotape distributor, will not be referred to the monopolies commission. The recommended bid, announced in January, takes Cariton into large-scale prerecorded sales for the first

Prospect buys

Prospect Industries, a supplier to the power generation industry, is paying up to £2.4 million for Greenbank Industries, which makes abrasive and chemical resistant products. Greenbank is based in Lancashire and has a subsidlary in Chicago.

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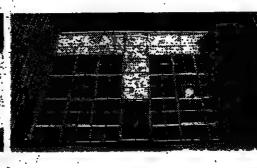
Scotland's skilled workforce, cost efficiencies and infrastructure are th by the 300 foreign companies already there.



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otland's higher education institutions have, in UK terms, been disproportionately successful in winning EC research



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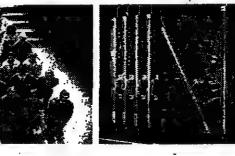
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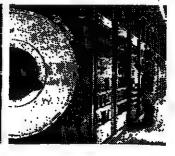
package to

companie: looking to expand.

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The medicine starts to work at Wimpey

THERE can be no doubt that Joe Dwyer has successfully completed the first half of his job as chief executive of George Wimpey — a 16p rise in the share price to 146p

was witness to that. The second half, of course is a rather different matter, with much depending on the timing of any eventual recovery and the individual flair that Mr Dwyer can - and indeed must - bring to the construction group's future. But the impressive recent progress cannot be ignored. Most crucially Mr Dwyer has succeeded in stabilising

Wimpey's balance sheet. By disposing of assets worth up to £300 million, net borrowings have been reduced to £206 million and gearing to 35 per cent.

The possibility of further property sales leaves the door open to further improvement.

By cutting gearing. Mr Dwyer has reduced the pace at which Wimpey has to run to stand still. But that is just as well, given the current state of the company's core

In construction Wimpey is making a El2 million provision against its involve-

ment in TML, the channel earnings multiple of 18 looks tunnel contractor. More worryingly, the size of the order-book has fallen by 40 per cent to £700 million.

Housebuilding too, has serious problems, despite a rather meaningless pre-elec-tion report of recent improvement. At 6,380, the number of houses sold in Britain is up on last year but the £65,500 average selling price is down for the third

An average plot price for the company's 14,719-plot' iand bank of £13,000 bodes well for the future. But after a £30 million exceptional write down — shared with North America housebuilding — it

A pre-tax loss of £16.1 million is not the most promising of starts, but the marked improvement in the balance sheet has won Mr Dwyer more time.

Assuming no further de-cline in housebuilding and cline in housebuilding and no more problems with the Channel tunnel contract, County NatWest believes profits of more than £32 million are possible this year, rising to £55 million in 1993.

current year price/

expensive, but perhaps not for a company that appears to have survived the recession sans right issue. Buy.

Watmoughs (Holdings)

WATMOUGHS (Holdings), the printer of colour supple-ments, mail order catalogues and brochures accompanied its results with news that it has secured a further five year contract for The Sunday Times colour magazine. The group prints annual reports for 150 companies, and intends to increase the number to 200 within two years. It also says that profits are

Coming so soon after last month's soul-baring at the time of its one-for-four rights issue at 350p, to raise £22.3 million, there were few surprises in the results state-ment for the year ended

Pre-tax profits were £8.1 million against £11.6 million, the final dividend is 8p a share, making 10.5p, up from 10.25p, for the year, Gearing that was 30 per cent

Even allowing for the tra-ditional weight of the second half, and stripping out ac-quisition benefits, profits re-bounded in the second half, after a poor interim, and the recent venture into Hungary is showing signs of promise. Long-term contracts to print three weekly magazines in Spain, which the rights-

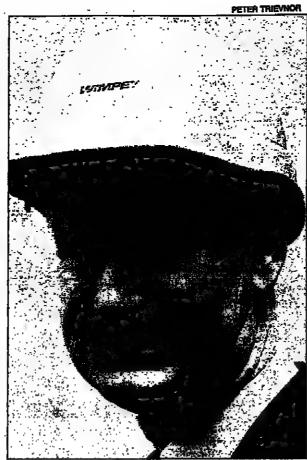
Watmoughs' master-plan is for three printing hubs— in Britain, for western Europe and Scandinavia; Madrid, for Spain, Portugal and Italy; and Budapest for the Austrian and eastern

European markets.

funded new gravure printing facility will handle, also holds

On 1992 pre-tax profits hopes of £12.6 million, earnings would be 27.9p a share, and therefore shy of adjusted net earnings of 31.5p a share seen in 1990. But at that level, net earnings would show a near 35 per cent improvement on adjusted 1991 levels. 1991 levels.

At 420p, up 5p, the rating of 15 times prospective earnings is underpinned by re-newal of The Sunday Times



Success under his hat: Joe Dwyer of Wimpey

Lonrho shares bounce back on bid speculation

trading group headed by Ro- ions but turnover was low, land "Tiny" Rowland, with only 450 million shares traded. Longer-dated issues year low with a rise of 14p to 99p as the City decided the shares were a takeover play.

Lonrho's share price has tumbled from a peak of 277p and fund managers are increasingly restless about the group's management style. They are expected to voice their complaints at the annual meeting scheduled for March 26. The price fell sharply on Monday as speculation grew that Lonrho will be dropped from the FT-SE 100 index today because of its poor performance. The fall in the share price has seen the company's market value drop to £650 million. Last night there was speculation about a bid from Hanson, which fin-

ished 5p better at 223p.
It is whispered in the
Square Mile that Lonrho

Renold, a gear and chain maker, is bracing itself for a takeover bid from TT, an acquisitive industrial holdacquisitive maustrial hold-ing group that has lifted its shareholding from 2.9 per cent to 4.4 per cent. Renold shares, which gained 9½ p on Monday, rose a further 1½p to 57p, while TT advanced 1p to 200p.

might dispose of its holding in Western Platinum, reckoned to be worth £1 billion. Gencor, South Africa's second largest mining house, would be an obvious bidder. Elsewhere, the bears were beginning to feel the squeeze as prices clawed back some of their recent losses in the wake of last week's Budget and worries in the City about the outcome of the election. Prices closed near their best of the day, helped by an over-night bounce in New York and a firm start to early trading yesterday. The index rose 20.5 to 2,491.2 as dealers

LONRHO, the international rushed to cover short positrallied by more than 12.

Britain till di

British Vita, a polymer products group, held steady at 237p as County NatWest WoodMac, Warburg Securities and BZW all urged clients to take up the group's £73 million rights issue, being offered at 212p. An-alyst Ian John says County takes a favourable view of the company's growth prospects.

Most early business centred on news of the proposed merger between Mid-land Bank and its 15 per cent shareholder. Hongkong & Shanghai. Midland responded to the news with a leap of 76p to 329p as more than 21 million shares were traded.

The development focused attention on the banking sector. Abbey National rose op to 275p. Its lack of exposure to overseas lenders and strong base in the domestic housing market are likely to he make it attractive to institutions. There were also gains for Bank of Scotland, 4p to 111p, Barclays, 5p to 341p, and National Westminster. 7p to 302p. Lloyds, however, lost ground, falling 6p to 388p amid wild talk in the market that it might make a counter offer for Midland.

Glazo feil 12p to 771p in further response to plans for an inquiry into tactics used by the group in marketing its migraine treatment Imigran.

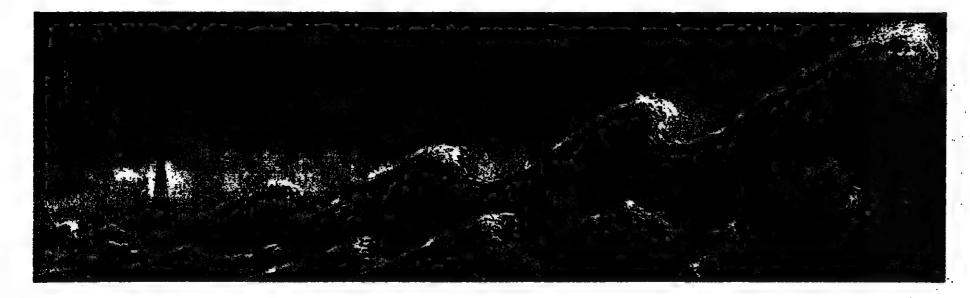
The decision of George Wimpey to maintain its dividend, despite a pre-tax loss, and optimistic remarks about and optimistic remarks about trading lifted the shares by 16p to 147p. There were also gains for Taylor Woodrow, 5p to 116p, AMEC, 4p to 132p, and Tarmae, 6p to 127p. Marley, reporting to-day, rose 3p to 119p.

MICHAEL CLARK

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Tome fuel prices are about as unpredictable as the British weather. Take oil for instance. The majority of the world's long-term reserves are in the Middle East. which means the chances of a consistent price are about as likely as persistent rain in Riyadh

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higher, encouraged by data ing trading after struggling showing that the American to maintain opening gains. economy is improving. A Rises outnumbered falls by bounce in Tokyo stocks also seven to four. Shares should helped. The Dow Jones in- be helped by firmer bonds, dustrial average gained 8.94 analysis said.

New York - Shares opened points to 3,245.30 in morn-

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Britain still deep in recession

uring the recession in Britain, it has been widely noted that we appear to be suffering from an Anglo-Saxon malaise. Not only were our North American cousins afflicted, but the Antipodes were struck down with the same affliction. But now our own recovery is proving alarmingly elusive. The disturbing 1.3 per cent fall in Britain's industrial production in January could not have come at a worse time for a government. seeking to foster confidence: Manufacturing industry is clearly seeking to retrench, as indicated in the 0.9 per cent decline over the last three months, which leaves it shrinking at an annual 3.3 per cent. This strongly suggests a fresh leg of its sectoral recession. And the Confederation of British Industry's most recent survey gives little grounds to hope that industry is about to display its former boldness. All in all, the first quarter of 1992 is starting to look like the seventh quarter of recession, at least for Britain.

A worrying feature of the production data is that engineering and allied industries, key to our export hopes, saw output shrink 1.2 per cent in the latest three months. With little sign of domestic demand strong enough to revive the engineering sector. some economists are starting to worry that import penetration might be starting to rear its head again.

A deteriorating trade balance would be an unwelcome accompaniment to dramatically. worsening government finances.

Australia came out of recession officially yesterday, managing two successive quarters of growth, while America reported what looks almost like the start of a housing boom and a return to rising industrial output. From Britain's vantage point, we can only look on in envy at those countries still free to cut their interest rates to match their... economic needs. Given current sterling weakness, we can but wait for Helmut Schlesinger.

Good, bad and ugly

he good news is that at last there are some soundly based, workable proposals for reform of the mish-mash of bodies which regulate the investment business. They emerged yesterday from the Clucas report which suggested that they be scrapped and replaced with one organisation to look after the interests of private investors. The Financial Services Act should have created such a body but failed to do so.

The bad news is that, however sensible the reforms, they can be ignored in effect by the member firms of the self regulatory bodies which would be subjected to abolition or merger. For the current regulatory system does not allow the members of the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation, the Financial Inter-mediaries Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association or any other SRO member to be compelled to join a new organisation. SIB cannot num away people who want to be regulated directly and the Insurance Brokers' Registration Council could not be scrapped without legislation.

This apparent nonsense strains the credibility of self-regulation and may not survive too long under a new Government. Sir Kenneth Clucas suggest how rationalisation can be achieved, what safeguards can be put in place to stop interested parties getting their way at the expense of investors and how the transition period can be handled safely. He also wants a much stronger say for consumers. It will be up to investment companies to do the decent thing. If they do not, then their customers must draw the obvious conclusion. Self regulation is too important to be left to the self

Midland finally embarks on its oriental marriage of convenience

Graham Searjeant

reports on how the

Midland, once the largest bank in the

world, is looking east to rediscover its destiny.

idland Bank's engagement with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, which in 1990 seemed as dead as the strategy of its chairman Sir Kit

McMahon, is on again in earnest. The marriage would not be made in heaven, but could have considerable

The banns were never read the first time because both parties were in trouble. Midland's troubleshooters were turning their eyes at last from the Latin American debt book only to find the bank had read the domestic recession late and suffered unknown losses compounded by its me-too expansion into high profile corporate lending for hig bids, deals and developments. Back in Hong Kong, William Purves' ambitious expansion into America, via Marine Midland, had turned as sour as the economy and property prices and his attempt to gain market share in Australia had run up a tally of had debts. Had the two managed to stagger to the alter, investors would have boycotted the ceremony.

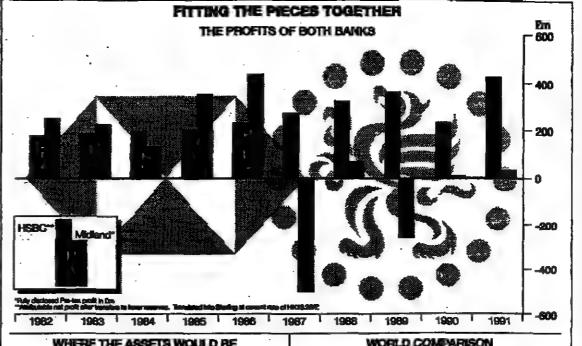
The relationship was, however, left hanging in the air. Hongkong and Shanghai retained the 15 per cent of Midland it had built up, with Sir Kit's blessing, in 1987 by backing a share issue to bolster Midland's deptend capital. That deal carried a three-year agreement to co-operate and keep the stake un-changed with a view to a final merger. As the deadline approached, a decision had to be rade. The formal abandonment left. HSBC showing a large loss on its original £340 million investment. and a return that was small and dwindling as Midland progressively cut its dividend. The initiative over Midland's future was firmly an-

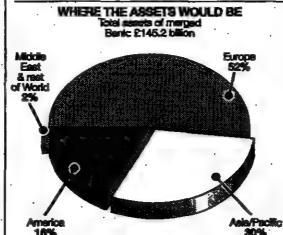
chored in Hong Kong.
If the Midland stake looked uncomfortable in the HSBC balance sheet, the two banks had something more longstanding and psychologically deeper in common. In a Lutyens bank parlour in the City and in a Norman Foster tower in Hong Kong lurked ambitions for a destiny on the world stage, based ultimately on fear.

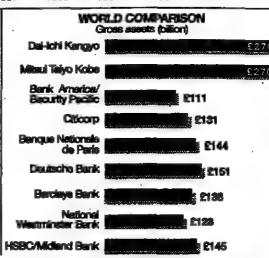
The merged group would be truly international and of world-class size, In the Nineties, however, the focus may be more on depositors than borrowers and an OECD study, published yesterday, questions whether the trend for banks to concentrate in ever larger financial congiomerates will last much longer. The internationalisation of banks, it notes, "has not been an unambigu-

ous success story".

Within living memory, Midland could have laid a claim to be the largest bank in the world. It had







from the international network to personal loans and the bank cheque card. The Midland was also seen in the British banking community as a brash, awkward omsider, not least because its chairmen were rarely Career or hereditary bankers.

The Midland's troubles really

started as long ago as 1968, the year of the great British bank mergers. National Provincial tearned up with the Westminster. The monopolies commission stopped the agreed merger of Barclays and Lloyds, but Barclays was still much enlarged by a takeover of Martins. In all this, Midland, which had already fallen behind Barciays in Britain, was left out in the cold. Charles Raw. the journalist, raised what must then have seemed an alarmist question: "Can Midland now survive on its strategy ever since.

Thwarted at home, Midland eventually turned abroad. In 1980, its pent-up ambition led to the purchase of Crocker National, a California bank that brought with it the apparently desirable business con-nections and loan book it had built up in Latin America. In two waves, Crocker's domestic energy and pro-perty loans and its Third World debt brought Midland to its knees.

ing Crocker to America's Wells Fargo bank but onuges to see Latin American debt. The extent of bank but obliged to keep the that obligation was well-known in banking circles. Sir Kit McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, was dispatched to Midland's Poultry headquarters on a

Midland was forced to retreat, sell-

To the wider public, the extent of Midland's borden was still unclear when, in the heady days before the 1987 crash, the Saatchi & Saatchi advertising group planned an abortive bid for the clearing bank, thinking it on the mend. Losses of £505 million were reported for 1987, followed by further losses in 1989. Sir Kit sorted that out but his strategy still had elements of the old ambition, by now beyond Midland's demoralised management.

n shrinking, Midland sold solid retail banking networks, putting the proceeds into wholesale business, finance for corporate deals and bewildering retail banking initiatives. Its strategic thinking moved to forging the inter-national alliance with HSBC. Sir Kit hit troubles at home. The Bank of England again glided into action, easing in Sir Peter Walters, the latest non-banker chairman, and Brian Pearse, Barclays sober fi-

nance director, to clear up the new mess. They show every appearance of doing so, but Midland seemed at last to have no answer left to that

The Hong Kong and Shanghai had swelled profitably with the growth of Hong Kong, where it embodied the respectability of a note-issuing bank. There was a snag: Hongkong Bank was the big-gest business with the highest profile in an occasionally volatile colonial enclave whose future was ticking away. Even before the accord on Hong Kong's transfer to China in 1997, it needed to branch out.

When it moved into Britain in 1981, making an unwelcomed bld for the Royal Bank of Scotland, it found itself viewed down the Roman nose of Lord Richardson, the tetchy governor of the Bank of England, as its place. This disdain owed much to the Bank's own discreet marriage bureau, which had already blessed a union between Royal and Standard Chartered, the British international bank. In the event, and to the Bank's chagrin, both bids were nimed down in the monopolies commission on the last occasion the Scottish trump was successfully played there. The MMC noted objections that monetary control and the Bank's influence by nod and wink might be

undermined, "The Bank of England also argued strenuously that the acquisition of Royal Bank Group by HSBC would be against the public interest, because ultimate control of the group would be transferred over-seas". The report added tarrly: "Some of the arguments have not

seemed to us wholly persuasive".

Mr Purves, who succeeded to the chair at HSBC in 1986, nonetheless took the cue and kept in touch with the Bank. The deal with Sir Kit could hardly have been reached without the approval of the central bank, which was by then much more relaxed. In any case, 1993 was approaching and even continental banks could not indefinitely be treated as doubtful foreigners. That move to a single European market is much in Mr Purves' thoughts and. in 1990, HSBC moved its registered home to Britain with one eye on protecting its back from China. Despite the disparity of profits and market value, more than half the assets of a combined Midland and HSBC would be in Europe.

n Hong Kong, recovery is at a much more advanced stage than in Poultry. Australian exposure has been contained, losses at Marine Midland have been cut and, in a notable exercise of tough management, the group has turned James Capel, its over-ambitious investment in the securities business, from loss to profit. HSBC has the advantage, long given up in London and New York, of being able to play tunes on its accounts through hidden reserves. Even so, the near doubling of profits in 1991 provided the rising share price needed as a platform for a bid.

The merger is, however, still far from a foregone conclusion. The Bank of England, having been "kept informed", may feel more relief than alarm. There are other regulators, either in Brussels, or a Whitehall whose masters are as yet unknown. The rating agencies must be kept on board. The terms of the issue will need to be carefully judged to keep them and Midland shareholders happy. Even in truncated form, Midland is capable of making £650 million pre-tax profit in two or three years time and might make £1 billion in the fair wind and boom.

HSBC has also moved to bring matters to a head. If it is not to buy Midland, now is the time for some other bank to buy HSBC's underperforming investment. Midland, as the weakest of the big four, has been flirting with Lloyds, whose caution has made it the smallest but strongest. The successful Lloyds' team will soon retire and it has strategic decisions to make. A mergtition authorities. Lloyds cannot be ruled out, but Midland clearly realised HSBC posed fewer questions and might offer more since it had only to buy 85 per cent.

Mr Purves' nerve might also be tested by continental banks. For the authorities in the City and Whitehali, as well as bankers, the worst nightmare might be a knockout bid from a state-owned French bank. The long Midland saga promises a

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Elementary for Watson

THE retirement of Det Chief Insp Graham Watson from the City of London Police could turn out to be their loss and the corporate world's gain. Watson, aged 48, attached to the Serious Fraud Office, completed his 30 years of service in the force with a two-year stint leading the Barlow Clowes investigation on behalf of the SFO. The investigation began in June 1988, when Peter Clowes was arrested. "I was extremely surprised by the scale of the fraud," says Watson, whose renrement from the force has already taken effect, although he does not officially leave until next month. That retirement will, however, be short-lived. Watson, described as popular, hard working and conscientious by colleagues, begins a new job on April 6, with Kingsciere Consultants, a division of Sigma Security Group, which has been involved in investigating some aspects of the Maxwell empire. "I will be doing corporate investigations: fraud enquiries, loss prevention, any sort of internal investigative work within companies. Watson says. After his firsthand experience of the Barlow Clowes operation, he will also be exceptionally cautious about investing his nest egg when he receives it in April. "I will be talking to two of the clearing banks, to the building societies and maybe to one or two professional advisers, but not to anyone who receives commission. And no, there is absolutely no way I will put it all with one

WINE!



"I suggest we need more of a Chinese dragon."

Taking the Mickey

OF THE 80 or so official Euro Disney tour operators, not all are as accommodating as Bruce Peters and Russel Grocott. Originally, they es-Mouse Trips UK, only to be told by Disney - clearly suffering from a sense of humour failure - that it was not prepared to travel with a company called Mouse. They have decided to call themselves Magic Trips UK, instead, but customers can reach them at their head office at the former Boys' British School in Saffron Walden, Essex, which old boys will be delighted to know, has now been renamed Mouse Hall

One that got away ATTEMPTS to clean up the heavily industrialised areas of Teesside - within a stone's throw of several large ICI plants - have met with mixed success. In an attempt by the National Rivers Authority to demonstrate that the river Tees near Stockton was teem-

ing with fish, it offered £175 to the person who caught the most fish during a competition. Hoping to tip the odds in its favour, the NRA even brought in a boat stocked with expensive sonar equipment to locate the best spots. However, it all ended rather embarrassingly. Despite casting their lines for almost six hours, 50 anglers were unable to catch one fish between them...with one exception. The sole (sorry) catch of the day went to a teenager who landed a flounder but threw it back, deeming it to be too

THE latest joke doing the rounds among white South Africans: What is the difference between a yes vote and a no vote? A yes vote gives you more time to pack.

Wickhamist

CHRISTOPHER Wickham, a 30-year-old food and beverage analyst with Lehman Brothers International, is the last person to be admitted as a member of the Stock Exchange. The exchange, plan-ning to transfer all individual memberships from the stock exchange to the newly created Securities Institute, despite the resistance of many of the members, admitted Wickham last week, even though the membership system will survive in its present form for only another two weeks. "It has all come as a bit of a surprise and it is all quite amusing," says Wickham, who, as his name suggests, is also a Wykhamist. "Yes," he adds, "the exchange seemed to find that the most amusing

CAROL LEONARD

Glaxo R&D justifies good profit

The damage started in 1984:

Sir, Your correspondent J. C.

Porteous (Business Letters, March 6) omits one vital factor in his suggestion that Glaxo's profits will fall because of their reduction in discount allowed to chemists.

Glaxo spends about £500 million a year on research and development and so far has been successful in discovering new drugs to meet longfelt needs. Fortunately, it is able to patent these discoveries, although patents run out in a ridiculously short time.

Surely Glazo are entitled to the benefits they have found as a result of their work and investment? All the chemist has to do is hand the stuff doctor's prescription.

As soon as the patent runs out, other companies step in, steal the analysis and make a smaller profit, whilst Glazo no longer gets any benefit. It is a hard life for Glazo but so far they have wonderfully surmounted these problems.

I suggest that if any sympathy is being handed out it should go to Glazo rather than these pirate companies or the chemists, who will still do very nicely, thank you.

A. F. ROUSELL 5 Calverley Court, Calverley Park Gardens, Tunbridge Wells,

Change has alienated retail pharmacists

From Mrs L. F. Ralph Sir, Whatever the intention of

Glaxo's decision to change distribution methods, they have succeeded in alignating retail pharmacists. I do not think Mr Lance

(Business Letters, March 12) vill find one community phar-

macist who will speak in favour of the change. Has he read the pharmaceutical press recently? Yours faithfully. FRANCESCA RALPH, Walton Pharmacy. 23 Wendover Road,

The Budget statement and statistics

From Mr J. E. Kidgell

Sir, Your Budget coverage (March 11) stated incorrectly that, from the end of this year, figures for UK trade would cease to be published monthly. In fact, the change in VAT reporting announced in the Budget statement will have no significant effect on the The abolition of customs bar-

riers between EC countries at the end of 1992 requires the introduction of a new system for collecting intra-EC trade data. While this system, Intrastat, is bedding down during 1993, there will be a delay in the publication of monthly trade figures. Intrastat will include a monthly statistical return by the largest traders which will enable the Central Statistical Office

to publish monthly trade fig-ures. In due course, these will

be published within about six

eks of the end of each month.

Aylesbury,

Buckinghamshire.

Yours faithfully J. E. KIDGELL (Head of Division 3) Central Statistical Office, Great George Street, SW1.

High street banks have lost the personal touch

From Mr S. A. Ettinger Sir, For 40 years I have used a

high street bank for my perional and business accounts. Over this period I have seen bank managers come and go and they have become my personal friends, both before

and after their retirement. They were managers who actually managed, making decisions to our mutual ad-

I find that recently things

tionship between my bank and me has become very impersonal and the manager no longer has power to use his own discretion, but must follow a rigid set of instructions laid out for him.

are very different, the rela-

Reluctantly, after so many years with one bank, I tried a different bank, only to find the same principles applied.

Could any of your readers suggest a bank to me, run in

still assisting customers? Yours faithfully S. A. ETTINGER, Stewart Gallery, 25 Grove Road

> Letters to The Times Business and Phones section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

profit for themselves while

MORTGAGES NOTICE OF INTEREST RATE VARIATION

The following changes apply to loans drawn prior to 17th February 1992 and are effective from the first payment date on or after 27th March 1992.

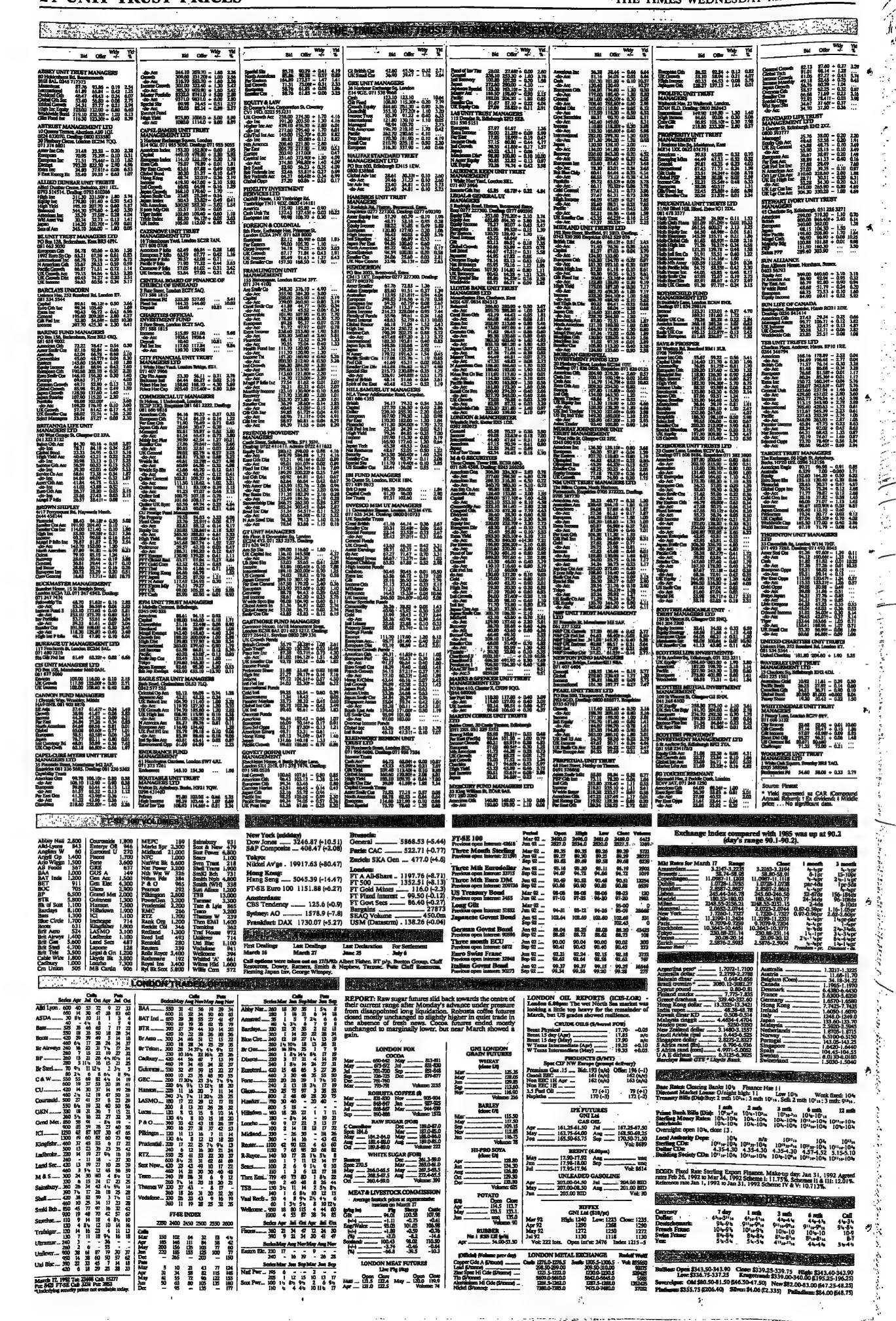
> Home Loan Rate reduced by 0.55% to 10.95% per annum.

Stabilised Charging Rate reduced by 0.5% to 11.25% per annum.

> This does not apply to loans from Central Banking Services.



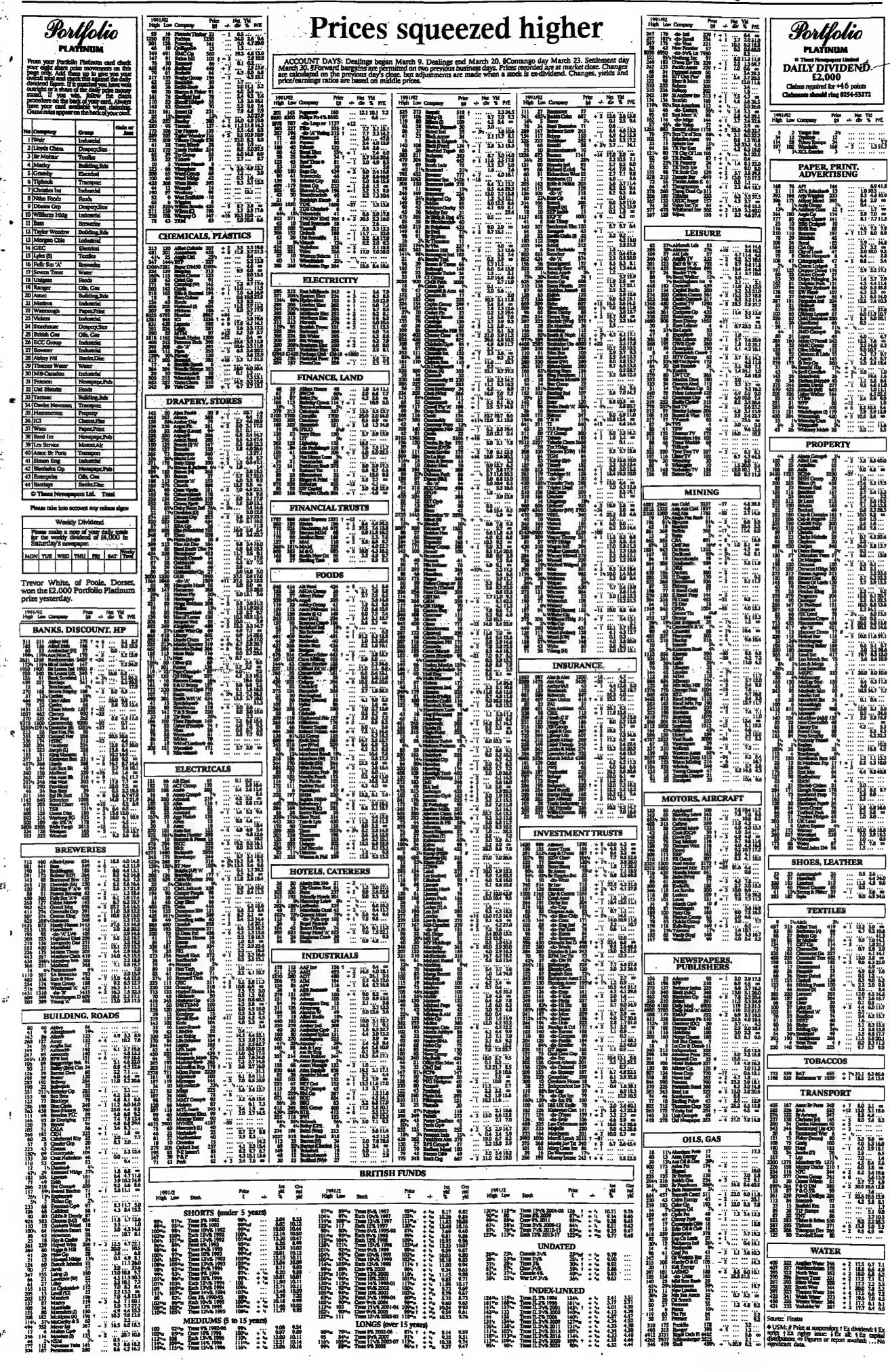
Head Office: The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ.



عمِلَدا هند المأصِل

MARLE

Special results of the second results o



Running the Olympic gauntlet of suspicion



Krabbe: four-year ban

Krabbe for producing an ildoping control has again tarnished the reputation of athletics as well as placed the world's leading perform-ers under the suspicion of

My reaction to such news is always mixed. Initially, I am pleased that the cheats are being caught and dealt with as seen fit by the gov-erning body of the sport. This feeling slowly turns to bitterness as I recall the times when I have admired and respected these athletes while they have been per-forming under false pre-

Although I am encouraged that out-of-season drug-test-ing is becoming a strong deterrent, I feel sad for the

suffers greatly.
I am well aware that many

people suspect me of taking drugs to enhance my athletic performance. I expect some who do not know me personally to raise this question and I take no offence in them doing so.

In a strange way, I take it as a compliment because it implies that the quality of my performances - which I know to be genuine - could have been brought about only by these means. It has become part of the job nowadays to be under suspicion, a case of guilt by associ-

As I write, I am in California preparing for the season ahead. As the emphasis on training shifts towards quality and speed, the climate here provides an ideal environment. Over the last few years it has become home from home for myself and a handful of British athleres meh as Kriss Akabusi. John



Roger Black, European 400m champion, describes his reaction to the latest

The cynic, however, would suggest that my reasons for honourable because it enables me to put enough distance between myself and the United Kingdom, to escape drug-testing for these

few wital mouths. Until last week it would have been hard for me to argue against this, but the Sports Council of Great Britain has provided me with some defence. Within 12 hours of notification, Kriss and I were tested for drugs here by a representative of the Sports Council who had

allegations of drug use travelled specifically to test British athletes abroad. We had no prior knowledge of this test and were surprised

> clean up its act. The testing procedure is clinical and thorough. The urine sample is separated into two bottles that are placed into scaled containers and then transported to the laboratory for testing. Many suspended athletes have pleaded innocence, ng that their samples were in some way tampered with on their way to the lab-

and encouraged by the steps

that the sport is taking to

this is a possibility and is a persistent worry to the innocent athlete. As testing procedures become more stringent and those in power enforce harsher penalties on offenders, then things will

We are moving in the right direction but I suspect that there is still a long way to go. For the cheating athlete the rewards are only short-term because a guilty conscience will remain long after the ompetitive days are over. This is Olympic year and

in athletics, the Games will he no more competitive than the world championships but the consequences of success or failure will differ greatly. My preparation for the Olympics began in

spent gaining both strength and stamina, longer runs with short recovery in-

metres is very specific. The key element is speed endurance because the event is the longest sprint. To achieve the correct balance of speed and endurance is the 400 metre runner's goal. Come summer, speed is of the essence but to make the Olympic final the athlete will have to run four hard races on consecutive days - without

n sound endurance base this will be a daunting task. It is sometimes difficult to keep motivated to train. I am very fortunate to be working with an excellent group of training partners. This keeps motivation levels high At 33, Kriss is contemplating retirement. Mind you, he has been doing so for the last four years. He continues to defy logic and is running better than ever. We have trained together for

built up an almost telepathic understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses. We have learnt to train for one another and not compete. We aim to do our racing when it really counts.

Bluff KII

This year we have been joined by John Regis, Marcus Adam and the Swedish 400 metre hurdler. Sven Nylander. Each of us is a competitive individual who has his own interests at heart but we also recognise that it is the improvement in the quality of the group as a whole that will improve the performance of each indivi-

There is still a lot of work to be done between now and Barcelona. Each training session is just another piece of a jigsaw puzzle that will finally be completed on August 5 — the day of the Olympic 400 metre final.

England prefer period of experimentation

Laying down the law will bring conflict for board

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THERE are all the makings of a conflict of views when the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) debates changes to the laws at its annual meeting in Wellington next month. Not least is the southern hemisphere's preparedness to accept change immediately, against a proposal from the Rugby Football Union (RFU) that a period of experimentation be permitted to see if the changes work as envisaged.

The laws committee of the IRFB held a preliminary meeting in London last weekend to negotiate a way through the mass of recommendations and comments some 500 of them — on the laws. Some recommendations have already been made, by the board's interim meeting in November, including a revision to scoring values and several designed

to speed up play.
Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Argentina, meeting, in Sydney last month, have already agreed that any law changes agreed next month should be impleeach country in 1992, while

Expansion

urged

for China

Guangzhou: Rugby's govern-ing bodies are being urged to

set up development pro-

grammes in China, after the

country responded enthusias-

tically to its first taste of inter-

national rugby on Monday.

George Simpkin, the tech-nical director of the Hong

Kong Rugby Football Union,

said he would be writing to

the International Rugby Football Board and the Fed-

eration of International Rug-

by Associations after a

seasoned team from Hong

Kong beat Peking Agricultur-al University 32-0 in front of

several thousand speciators.

A Peking schools rugby

union is to be set up in April,

and could be followed by a

□ Western Samoa will send a

team to the Caldy Sevens,

which take place on the Wirral on May 2 and 3.

Bristol, Bath and Harlequins

are also competing.

Dean Richards, the Eng-

land No. 8, has recovered

from injury and returns to

Leicester's side for Saturday's

home league match against

Rosslyn Park. (Agencies)

national union.

landers have apparently agreed to make changes in mid-season, so as to embrace the All Blacks tour in July.

This is in direct contrast to the RFU, which will oppose the imposition of new laws for the 1992-3 season. "We would prefer to have a year's grace to try some of these experiments," Don Ruther-ford, the RFU technical director, said. "We are not at all happy that we should accept tever the board comes up with in April and then leave a moratorium in place until after the 1995 World Cup.

"We have written to the board to ask for power to try out the changes to see if they work and to see what repercussions they have, because some of them could change fundamentally the approach to the game, and those who

play it."

Moreover, the RFU has working parties discussing both a rewrite of the laws, so that they do not appear so complex, and the specific area of the lineout. Any recommendation relative to the lineout - for example, the Welsh Rugby Union will support the principle of lifting — would be referred to that

DURHAM, in the final of the

Commercial Union Universi-

ties Athletic Union (UAU)

championship for the first

time since their 1987 victory.

have not stinted in their prep-

arations for the match

against Loughborough Univ-

ersity at Twickenham this

Two former England inter-

nationals joined their former

mentor in coaching Durham

over the weekend before they

travelled to London on Mon-

Peter Dixon and Richard

Greenwood both played in

England back rows while,

under the guidance of Ted

Wood. Durham achieved

four UAU wins between 1981

Scarborough, returned to as-

sist Dixon, the Durham

coach, while Greenwood has

a direct interest in the univer-

sity XV since it includes Will,

The results of their efforts

will be seen against Lough-

borough, whose domination

of the tournament over the

last ten years has been inter-

his son, at stand-off half.

Wood, now working in

afternoon.

and 1987.

working party, which inciudes the recently retired England lock, Paul Ackford.

We are not against change, but we are against change that has not been thought out to see what the consequences are," Rutherford said. One of his fears is that, in their desire to compeie with rugby league, Australia and New Zealand will create a game of rugby union void of the physical distinc-tions which make it such an attractive option.

The revised scoring values will be a contentious issue, too: the southern hemisphere supports five points for a try and two for a dropped goal. However neither Wales nor England agree: "The great problem is that if you can have seven points for a converted try you pave the way for cheating." Denis Easby. the RFU's representative on the IRFB laws committee,

situation where, with ten minutes to go, a player on one [still worth three points] twice in the knowledge that the losing side can still not catch

rupted only by Durham and, last season, Cardiff.

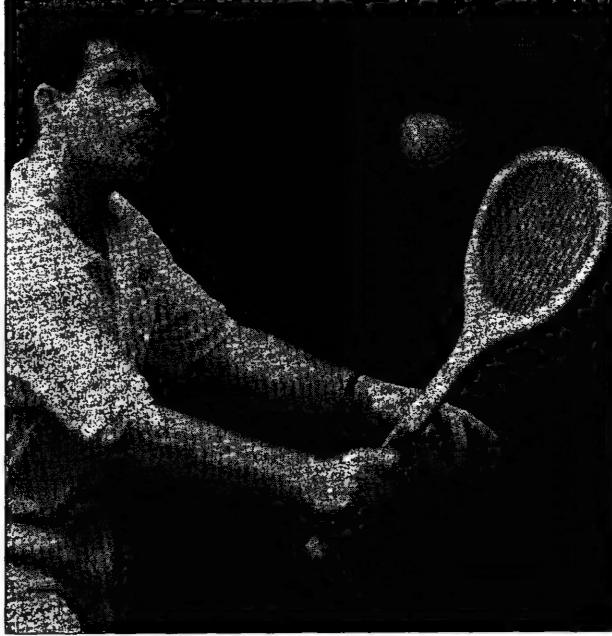
Durham beat Cardiff in the

play-off round this season while Loughborough pro-ceeded with a stately stride

Bristol respectively.

Durham prepare

with great care



Singular success: Bray has acquired a killer instinct since asking the professionals for advice

A nearly-man turns mean

BY SALLY JOHES

CHRIS Bray, one of Britain's brightest up and coming real tennis players, is finally start-ing to fulfil his rich promise as a singles player and add-ing some fine solo performances to the string of doubles titles he has already

until harder encounters in the Since 1989, Bray, aged 25, quarter-finals and semi-finals head professional at the Petworth House court in Susagainst Southampton and PRISTOI PESPECTIVELY.

PATHS TO THE FRNAL: Durhame bt Mail, 29-0; bt Leeds, 39-0; but to Newcaste, 15-0; bt Sheffeld, 17-9; bt Cardill, 12-10; bt Liverpool 19-7. Quarter-final: bt Sheffeld, 17-9; bt Liverpool 19-7. Quarter-final: bt Sheffeld, 19-10; bt Ledoster 81-0; bt Sheffeld, 21-13. Ledoster 81-0; bt Bursel, 85-12; w/o Sheffeld, cr. Quarter-final: bt Southeapton, 12-3. Sent-Briel: bt Briefel, 21-13.

DURHAMI UNIVERSITY: R. Wellington CSI; J. Yeldham (Wellington) sex, has taken the Australian. French and British Open doubles championships with a variety of partners but, despite an electrifying turn of speed, quick hands and an athletic power game, many believed he was too likeable to develop a killer instinct and doomed always to lose in the quarter or semi-finals of ma-

jor singles events.

A talented all-rounder who had played county lawn tenrackets and badminton. Bray, the son of the senior accountant of Cambridge University, was apprenticed as a teenager to the convivial Brian Church, the Cambridge professional and a. ciassical stylist.

The game's governing body, the Tennis and Rackets

Association, recognised his talent and, under its Young Professionals' Scheme, paid about half his salary for the next five years, including several years at Seacourt on Hayling Island. Here he practised hard with another rising pro, Peter Brake, but despite taking the British te taking the British under-21 and under-24 titles, always seemed to falter in

major opens against more determined opposition. Last season, however Bray's reputation as a gifted "nearly man" started to change. He had been hovering at No. 7 in the world, although he was arguably the



Ronaldson: unselfish

No. 1 doubles player. Then-he emerged as the star of the J. D. Ward National League, the professional inter-club team tournament, and was unbeaten in the group matches, defeating, among others, the former world champion,

Chris Romildam. "I began to realise that I could improve," he said. "But I knew that I would have toremodel my game, particular-ly my backhand which often broke down under pressure, so I asked several different professionals for advice. After lost to Chris Ronaldson in court and said, This is what you're doing wrong', and went into incredible detail.

"His tactical awareness is astounding. He has been studying the game for 20 years and although he must have realised I was one of his closest rivals he beloed me a lot - so much that I beat him in the Laurent-Perrier Masters shortly afterwards. It was amazingly unselfish of him and I can't think of any other sport where that would have

I also started playing and practising several times a week with Robert Fahey [the young Australian already tipped, with Bray, as a poten-tial world champion) and he analysed my Weaknesses clearly and helped me iron

them out." The hard work soon started to pay off. Bray reached his first major final at the US Open, en route beating two of his closest rivals. Mike Gooding and Julian Snow, the world's leading amateur. In the first set of the final he led Lachie Deuchar, the world No. 1, 3-0 and although he eventually suc-cumbed to the Australian's brick-wall defence and retrieving, he had proved he could hold his own at the

highest level. He also won the Ballaraat Silver Racquet championship in Australia, again beating Snow. Bray is now ranked No. 4 in the world. Over the next couple of months he competes against the best in the world at the Laurent-Perrier Masters and the professional singles, attempts to underline his doubles supremacy at the inaugural Maitre d'Estournel European doubles championship at Queen's and hopes to lead Petworth to their first victory in the National League final on April 10.

RACING

Sober Lad soon gets **Berry off** the mark

FROM OUR LEAST RACING CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

JACK Berry, who has set himself the target of 100 twoyear-old winners in a season, opened the 1992 Flat campaign in much the same way as he dominated the juvenile ranks last term with Sober Lad and John Carroll landing the odds at Leopardstown

yesterday. His Sober Lad was made 15-8 on for Ireland's initial two-year-old event, the Castrol Syntron X EBF Maiden, and the Cyrano De Berggerac colt broke fast, was clear by halfway and, ai-though tiring in the last halffurlong, hung on by a neck from Galaxy Star.

Sober Lad was purchased by Berry at Doncaster for 28,000 guiness from the Irish breeder John Kent. The winner "will be even better on a sharper track," commented

Berry.
"Sober Lad is smart, but still a little bit raw. He has probably gone too fast early on," added Berry, who has 85

other juveniles in his Cockerham yard. Berry explained he made the trip to the Dublin track

eason English juvenile races have been dropped. "There are no two-year-old races at places like Leicester and Wolverhampton, but I probably won't make a habit of coming over here, though I expect to be back later in the season for some of the bigger

Fortune's Wheel, trained by Robert Collet, won the first pattern race of the French Flat season, the group three Prix Exbury, at Saint-Cloud yesterday. Peter Davies, win-ner of the 1990 Racing Post Mile when trained by Henry Cecil, disappointed on his first run for Andre Fabre,

Aintree offers trainer bonus

finishing out of the first ten.

By Jack Waterman

AINTREE'S ambition to rival Cheltenham, with its own Martell-sponsored three-day festival and more than £500,000 in added prizemoney, has received a further boost with the announcement yesterday of a new trainers

award. The first trainer to saddle four winners at this year's Grand National meeting (starting April 2) will win a £25,000 bonus, given by Horse Racing International Super Solvitax. The award will be split £10,000 to the trainer, £10,000 to the stable staff and £5,000 to the Injured Jockeys' Fund.

☐ The date of the first Sunday fixture at Doncaster is July 26, not as previously

Competition winners

Mr C. Cross and Mr Andy Fleming are the winners of The Times Martell Grand National competition. Mr Cross, who lives at Van Road. Caerphilly, Mid-Glamorgan, and Mr Fleming, of Ashton Close, Needingworth, Cambridgeshire, each win a luxury trip for two as the guests of Martell to the big race at Aintree on April 4.

The runners-up, who each receive a bottle of Martell Cognac, are: D. Black, of Elmtree Green, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire: Mr David Baxter, of Maudslay Road, Eltham, London SE9; J. Gompertz, of Highbury Place, London N1: Mrs

Helen Edgeley, of Runwick, Farnham, Surrey, Mr Jim Tobin, of Mornington Avenue, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mrs T. Shelton, of Stanford Way, Broadbridge Heath, Horsham, West Sussex; Mr C. D. Hure, of Locks Ride, Ascot, Berkshire; Mr Ken Gresham, of Florida Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, W. G. Neville, of Chatsworth Avenue, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire; and Mr Douglas Halley, of Camus

Road East, Edinburgh. The answers were: 1, Docklands Express; 2, Oxo (1959); 3. Criso, L'Escargot, Churchtown Boy: 4. Bob Davies: 5 Mrs Lois Duffey (Mr Frisk).

POOTBALL

Cup Winners' Cup Quarter-final, second leg First-leg score in brachets Tottenham (0) v Feyencord (1)... (6.05)

Uefa Cup Quarter-final, second leg First-lag score in brackets Liverpool (0) v Ganon (2) (7.10)....

FA Cup Sixth-round replays Norwich v Southampton (7.45)... Sunderland v Chelses (7.45).... Barclays League

Nottrn Forest v Menchester Utd. (all ticket)

Fourth division

Lincoln v York

B and Q Scottish League Premier division

international Wates v Canada (at Wrestham, 5.30)

PONTRIS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bernsley v Bractiord (7 0), Leads v West Bromwich (7.0), Newcastle v Blackburn (7.0), Second division: Hull v Hotts County (7.0), Manafeld v Scurhorpe (7.0), Port Vale v Blackpool (7.0); Preston v Grimsby (7.0); Wolverhempten v Wigan (7.0) Postported: Burnley v Stake

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier

TODAY'S FIXTURES RUGBY UNION

Laughborough St v Durham Univ... (at Twickenham, 3.0) Ciub matches

ICE HOCKEY

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: British Islex men's inter-reborels (Teogratridge) BOXING: WBO Byweight title: Island Plezz (Mexico, Insider) v Pat Cantor (Glaggov) (Kalen Hall, Glasgow, 10.0) SNOKEN: Embaney world chairp-ion ship: Preliminary tournement. SCHASH RACKETS: Guerney

ICE HOCKEY

Britain aim for promotion prize

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA GREAT Britain are joined by make a late change because

Australia, Belgium, Hungary and North and South Korea at Humberside ice arena tomorrow in pool C of the world championships. Promotion to pool B next year is the prize for the winners.

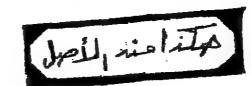
In Copenhagen last year, Britain were perhaps unfortunate not to gain promotion. They lost to Denmark, China and Bulgaria - all by the odd

Alex Dampier, the Britain coach, has been forced to of a shoulder injury to Graham Waghorn, the Nottingham Panthers defenceman. His place goes to Kevin Conway, who has recently received his British passport and is the eighth Canadianbred player in the squad.

It is unfortunate that Dampier deems it necessary to include so many dual-nationals, most of whom have reached the veteran stage and could find five games in seven days a little too taxing.

There must be many talented British-born players who find it frustrating that their progress is impeded by the Canadians. ☐ The draw for the Heineken

League championship play-offs was made yesterday, with the top two in each group qualifying for the finals at Wembley on April 24 and 25. DRAW: Group A: Durham Waspa. Humberoide Seabawie, Mumeyfeld Rec-um, Norwich and Peterborough Plastes. Group E: Northingham Parathere, Cardiff Davids, Whitley Warriors, Billingham Borzhom



Knoll today.

strong claims in the Cross Keys Handicap Hurdle.

City back to hurdling this season has already paid divi-

Richards: runs Aintree

The decision to bring Sweet

ANTE-POST supporters of Rinus for next month's

Martell Grand National will

be looking for a much-im-proved display from the Greystoke 11-year-old when

he returns after a two-month

favourite for Aintree and

owes that lofty position to his

exploits of previous seasons

rather than his moderate

efforts this term when he has

failed to complete in two chases and finished tailed off

With Gordon Richards re-

porting that his string is over

the worst of the virus, Rinus

can be expected to run well in

the King's Own Scottish Bor-

derers and Charlotte Lady

Reay Challenge Cup but Bluff Knoll and Shoon Wind

ional in mind and, after a

Bow Handy Man to a short

Meyrick Handicap Chase at

Shoon Wind was still in

with a chance of beating Cool Ground when falling two out

Bluff Knoll has been

are both preferred.

in two runs over hurdles.

Rinus is currently 16-1 fifth

absence at Kelso today.

a favourable mark

MY MAK.

IC101 Bluff Knoll looks on

W 4 MJZ -- > # No 54. AND AND SECOND 100 Mark Milde an-The wa principal a fyr<u>te</u>

THE NOT-THE ST. **M**ai Maria. 17. ma Mile against the Beitre mit 🐗 a jigilan Maria .

brought along steadily with next month's Scottish Nat-

pitch and he looks extremely well treated here off an official mark of 128. 7lb lower

SODET gentle pipe-opener at Newcastle last month, ran head on his second outing of the season at Sedgefield 15 Bem That run should have brought him near to concert he looks extremely

than when taking last sea-son's valuable Rowland

34.55

45 5

 $\exp(4\pi a_{\rm p})$

\$ 112

1 # 1 1

5. n. dead

1 Ac

Best -

City-

4016

 $\mathcal{F}_i: \, *^{\,\circ}$

: -

Ammed

trainers

2.10 Creche. 2.40 Aude La Belle. 3.10 African Chimes. 3.40 Masmur. 4.10 Up The Punjab. 4.40 2.10 Hinari Video. 2.40 Ande La Belle. 3.10 African Chimes. 3.40 Mazmur. 4.10 Trump. 4.40 Heniu.

Wetherby.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: SF-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 BLUE TIT HANDICAP

1 004- BARRYS GAMBLE 296 (B,D,F,S) T Fairburst 5-8-10 J Fanding (8) 5 2 1124 CRECHE 4 (8,8F,CD) Mrs N Macoulley 2-9-9 3 4816 HIMARI WIORO 4 (CD,0,S) M Johnston 7-8-8 Deart McKrown 7

4 500- BLADES HILL 101 (P) T Berron 5-9-0. Alex Gra 6 -002 BECKINGHAM BEN 15 (D,F,G) J-Laigh B-7-11 8 1003 CARONYELD 12 (V) J Glover 4-7-7 C Herrisley (7) 5 11-4 Creche, 4-1 Lets Go Sabo, 9-2 Hiner Video, 6-1 Beckingham Ben, Berrys Gemble, 5-1 Stedes HM, 10-1 others,

2.40 THRUSH HA

(E2,108: 1m 6f) (9) E2,108: 1M 67) (9)

1 4-14 TEMPERING 11 (C,F) D Creptum 6-10-0. 8 Wood 2
E 250. 8FRINGS WELCOME 180 (C,F,G) C Oyzer 6-8 T Mod supplier (7) 6

3 16-3 STEPPEY LANE 19 (CD,F,G,S) W Heigh 7-2-1
Dean Meditorers 6

4 433/ SINGULAR RUN 32J (S,F,G) Mrs J Christof 6-9 J Williams 5

5 60-0 EREYNOW 48 (CD) J Herris 5-8-3. 8 Doyle (5) 7

8 21-3 AUDE LA BELLE 11 (CD) Mrs A Knight 48-1

7 81-0. SIR ISK SJ (CD,F) R Hollechard 7-7-16

7 510- SULUK SJ (CD,F) R Holloshead 7-7-16

8 634- SHIKARI KID 144 (S) P Blookley 5-7-7 ... A Serth (7) 6 5-2 Aude Le Bolle, 7-2 Tempering, 4-1 Stappey Lane, 6-1 Springs Welcome, 8-1 Siduk, 10-1 Shikari Kid, 12-1 others.

3.10 ROBIN CLAIMING STAKES

(£2,225: 5f) (12)

1 1R01 AFFICAN CHIMES 4 (C.D.F) W O'Gormen 5-8-7

Examp O'Gormen (D) 5

2 051- TWILIGHT FALLS 149 (D.F.S) M Cornents 7-6-4

N Cornerton 2

1 8-06 NORTHERN VISION 4 (B.Q.S) P Beckey 5-9

4 -88-4 GORUNSKY 15 (B.D.F.S) J Berry 4-8-19... J Dennis (7) 10

5 0004 MCRPICK 4 (B.C.D) J Laigh 5-8-10... J Dennis (7) 10

5 0004 MCRPICK 4 (B.C.D) J Laigh 5-8-10... J Dennis (7) 10

7 0004 WELLSY LAD 11 (CO.S) D Chapman 5-8-10 S Works 7-8-9

9 /007 REGAL TIGER 3J Mrs J Dave 7-8-8... J Williams 1

10 050- LAST STRAW 138, A Jones 4-8-5... G Duffield 4

11 00-5 PRINCESS ISSTRA 21 (D.F.G) G Yerdley 4-8-8

12 0-60 LONIELY LASS 12 (B) L Bernstt 6-7-12 L Charmock 11

3-1 Atrican Chimes, 4-1 Gorinsky, 6-1 Erns Express, Wellsy Lad,

3-1 African Chimes, 4-1 Gorinsky, 6-1 Erns Express, Wellsy Lad, 8-1 Princess Jestinia, Prime Mover, 10-1 others.

Ayr and a Scottish treble looks on the cards here dein the John Hughes National

spite top weight.

- At Worcester, Bean King is Trial at Chepstow early last a confident choice to retain month but may have been flattered by the bare facts of his unbeaten record over timthat performance, and in any ber in the Pershore Novices' case, was receiving 24lb from the subsequent Gold Cup Hardle.

A high-class handicapper on the Flat, Bean King could not have won more easily on After a six-week absence, his hurdling debut at Folke-Shoon Wind may just need today's race and, as he has

stone two weeks ago.

The Ardross gelding is obviously held in high regard by Nicky Henderson as the ben raised a stone this sesson for victories at Wetherby and Newcastle, he may have to play second fiddle to Bluff Lambourn trainer declared him at the five-day stage for However Rinus fares in the the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at 'Cheltenham, a race in which he ultimately saddled feature race, Richards should not leave the meeting emptyfirst, fourth and fifth. handed as Sweet City has

Basilea, an easy winner at Lingfield in January, can re-Lingfield in January, can regain the winning thread in the King John Handicap Chase Tim Forster's nine-year old was still in with a speed chase when unseating an article at the fourth last in an amateurs' race here last month and has a solid chance to make amends in the hands

of Carl Llewellyn. Adrian Maguire's memorable season can continue with a double via Island Seisetter (2.50) and Major Kinisman (4.20), while Darren Biggs can follow suit at Southwell with Aude La Belle (2.40) and Kay's Di-lemma (4.40).

Blinkered first time **COUTHWELL: 240 Singular Rue, 3.10**Gothaky, Erris Express, Lonely Lass. 3.40
Jacidh.

hope Rinus at Kelso 3.40 WOODPECKER MAIDEN STAKES 1 8 ALDRIGTON NOBLE 14J C Trietline 5-67 ... J Lowe 2 JU CANONISED 63 R Brazington 5-67 ... J Cartell 1 2 Sty TORICARAR 7J (V) G Hum 7-57 ... J Cartell 1 4 JULISHATEN 18TJ A Raid 5-97 ... P McCabe (7) 5 0-65 LOUDEST WHISPER 8 (85) K Bridgester 4-5-5 B Dovid 69 I

3 280- MAAMIR 819 D Burchell 49-5. R. Co. 7 34-6 OKA FLOW SJ (8) P Blockey 49-6. J Deur 5 40-7 LLOGIGAL 44J J Warrion 5-9-2. J Femal 30-5 RAMBLE 21 J Old 5-9-2. J Femal 30-5 RAMBLE 21 J Old 5-9-2. J Femal 5-9-7 LLOGIGAL 44J J Warrion 5-9-2. J Femal 30-5 RAMBLE 21 J Old 5-9-2. J Femal 5-9-7 LLOGIGAL 44J J Warrion 4-9-0. J Bjor 102-5 TATIA 126 D Indian 4-9-0. Idia 102-5 TATIA 126 D Indian 4-9-0. Idian 102-5 TATIA 102-5 TATIA

4.10 STARLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O; 22,128; 1m) (8)

11-4 Truco, 7-2 Alum, 4-1 Up The Punjab, 8-1 Silver St B-1 Mellonby, 10-1 Eleharh, 12-1 others.

4.40 BLACKBIRD MAIDEN STAKES

1 FO-0 PRIST HOME 18 Pet Hitchell 5-0-7 R Torner (7) 1 2 2634 SH/BEDH EXPRESS 8 (8) Mrs J Camer 4-0-7 J Williams 6 3 2-00 HEPSUNN 38 II Resington 4-0-8 J Cales 2 4 0-42 KAY'S DU ISMAN 12 P Kellmay 4-0-8 D Bigge (5) 4 5 085- WEAPON EXHIBITION EX (7) 8 Hery 5-0-8 R Contrace 8 8 YOURS OR MINE BIJ D Chapman 482

7 00 COMSKEY PARK 12 D Chapman 384... S Wood 12

8 0 ESCADARO 193 S Norton 384... S Wood 12

9 482 FREFIGHTER 22 (36) R Hollenthand 384... W Byon 5

HERU Lord Huntingdon 384... Dean McKeown 7

10 00 MRJ SURN 141 Campball 384... Dean McKeown 7

11 00 MRJ SURN 141 Campball 384... C Dominal 11

12 FETMAN ANTHEM 6 Wag 37-13... F Norton 11

13 PETMAN ANTHEM 6 Wag 37-13... F Norton 18

8-4 Firefighter, 4-1 Key's Dismma, 5-1 Heniu, 8-1 Pers Anshem, 10-1 Wespon Ecobous, 12-1 others. COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINSRS: T Berron, 62 wieners from 208 runners, 25:0%; Lord Hurdingdon, 5 from 20, 22.0%; W O'Gormes, 24 from 17, 20.5%; J Berry, 20 from 102, 19.8%; C Cyner, 7 from 38, 18.4%; M Prescott, 12 from 66, 18.2%. JOCKEYS: Alex Greeves, 52 winners from 187 rides, 27.8%; W Ryen, 12 from 69, 17.4%; Estres O'Gorman, 20 from 121, 16.5%; N Connorton, 4 from 25, 18.0%; T Sprake, 5 from 32, 15.8%; D Nicholle, 16 from 97, 15.5%.

Nash seriously injured

THE amateur rider Pip Nash is on a life-support machine at the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham after a fall at the local course yesterday. Mrs Nash, married to the trainer Chris Nash, was injured when Stone Madness fell when leading at the eleventh flight in the Soar Handicap Hurdle.

RESULTS FROM DESAF DESCRIPTION

Fontwell Park

Going: good (ch. good to firm in places)
2.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, NOBLE INSIGHT (P
Scudemore. 10-11 fav); 2, Capital
Punishment (B de Hasn, 1-1-1); 3, French
Charmer (D Murphy, 1-3-8) ALSO RAN: 9
Ask The Governor (f), 40 Run For Pape
15th), 68 Anna's Okisy, Carnifars (6th),
Dartamer, Fotosepress (4th), 9 ran. 2, 8,
151 Asi, 8 M Pape at Weilington Tota;
190, E1 20 E1 10, E1 40 DF, £6.80,
CSF E11 08

CSF E11 08
2.30 (2m 2* hole) 1. IN THE SPOTLIGHT
(D Morrs, 16-1), 2. Vado Viz (Mr J Windle,
13-2), 3. Chimayo (M Richards, 9-2)
ALSO RAN 2 fav Legal Win (8h), 9-2
Freezing Breakers Ahead (f), 13-2 Pey To
Dream (5th), 12 Across The Card. 13
Small Endeswor (4th), 25 Stop Tracer, 33
Neodwood Poppy (pu) 11 ran. 15, nk, 5/,
½1, ½1 R Curtis at Espain. Tota 131.70.
480, 12-10, £1 70 DF- £391 50. CSF:
£124 62 Trickas. £521.22.

E124 62 Tricast. E521.22.

3.00 (3m. 21.110/d) 1. ROSE LANCASTER (5 Hazel) 94 fav), 2. Tagmoun
Chautour (W irvine, 7-2). 3. Jimstro (P
McDermort, 8-1). ALSO RAN- 7-2 Wilbur
(pu), 6 Eschberia (5m), 7 Hand Out (5m),
12 Rate Of Exchange (pu), 20 Always
Talking (4h), Amryllah, Broomyholme
(px), 40 Hazzlard's Boy (pu), 11 ran. NR.
Salverina. 14, 6.8. B, nd, 41 T Hallant at
Salverina. 14, 6.9. B, nd, 41 T Hallant at
Salverina. 15, 6.5. B, nd, 41 T Hallant at
3.80 (2m. 21 hutle1). St BaSET AND VINE 3.30 (2m 2f hole) 1, SUNSET AND YINE



Piacepot: 24.90. Nottingham Going: good

2.15 (2m 8t hole) 1, OAIEL DRIEAM (P. Neer, 7-1); 2, Menenda (R. Ourwoody, 13-2); 3, Charlie a Darling (V. Sistiary, 9-1); 4, Emily's Star (C. Lewellyn, 15-2), ALEC RAN 9-2 as Daddy's Darling, 8 Marihara Secret (Sth), 9 Polierton's Pride, Kovelevitic (Sth), 12 Ima. Deligin, Gistarbird, 18 Sady Pigtails, 20 Jon's A Second, 53 Ludlow Lady, 50 Net Call, Pleasant Company, 100 Dreamside, 16 ran, NR; Ruming Valley 2, 7, 3, 14, 5, 1 Riener at Ulverston, 10bs: 21130; 22.60, 21.80, 52.70, DF \$125.00, CSF-251.23, Tricast: ESB1.10 Going: good E51.23. Tricast E391.10

2.45 (Jan 4f hole) 1, PREMIER PRIN-CESS (R Hodge, 19-1); 2, Cumavarra Mili (D Gallagher, 11-1); 3, Ard Thilatch (J O'Hanion, 9-1); 4, Perry Well (S McNeit, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5 (t-few Marradong Brok (f), Scottisch Gold, 8 Fortunes Wood (ur), Rostreamer, 17-2 See Suck, 16 Free Juritice, 20 Surset Sem, 25 Concert Paper, Secret Fraile (po), Fingers Crossed, 33 Rongala (ur), Cosann, Prince Klenk (6th), 50 Spend Essy, Captain

(W McParland, 9-4 lay; 2, Eddie Kybo (M Richards, 6-1); 3, Eusei D'Ornay (A Maguire, 5-2), ALSO RAN-7-2 Directly, 8 Eastern Whisper, 9 Donna Del Logo (4th), 33 Shrirey Ann (6th), 50 St Andrew's Say (5th), 8 ran, NR; Bishopstone, Hata High, 4, 71, nk, 101, nk, 5 Dow at Epoem, Tota; 53.30; 51.40, 21.70, 51.50, DF; 515.40, CSF; 615.12 Tricaset 53.71.
4.00 (2m 2/ 110yd ch) 1, ROXALL CLUMP (M Richards, 135 fav; Thunderer's nap; 2, Just Moss (G McCourt, 7-4); 3, Bisre Ensign (D O'Sullvan, 50-1), ALSO RAN; 6 They AB Forgot Me (4th), 7 Mastredee (6th), 8 Shitterfield (pt), 50 Massier Cornedy (5th), 7 ns. 41, 31, 21, 8, 71, K Balley at Upper Lambourn, Tote; 52.50; £1.50, £2.00. DF; £3.00. CSF; 14.50 (2m 4/ ch) 1, MIC-MAC EXPRESS Ahab, Mandaley Prince (Sth), 100 Stone Madaess (f), 21 ran, NR: Yokon Quest, 31, 34, sh hd, 121, 41, is Hern at Aubridge. Tota: 224.10: 24.80, 23.80, 52.80, 55.50. DF: 2188.80. CSP: £181.34. Tricast: £1,586.25. 21,568,25.
3.15 (3m 4f ch) 1, YIRAGAN (N Hawks, 11-1); 2, Decent Man (P A Farrell, 5-1); 3, Woodgate (J Ouborns, 15-2), ALSO RANCE 2-1 fav Salemander Joe (f), 4 Smooth Esoot (ur), 50 Reusel (ou), 5 run. 15, 30. D Berons at Kingshridge, Tobe: 23.40; 21.80, 22.20. DF: 88.30. CSF: 21.48. 21.80, 22.20. DF: 88.30, CSF: 814.85.
3.45 (3m ch) 1, NO ESCORT (Mr M
Armytsge, 8-1); 2, Queentsway Boy (Mr M
Armytsge, 8-1); 3, Assessiewt (A. Dare, 11-4
tsy). ALSO RAM: 3 Sentessievt (pu), 9-2
Certain Rhythm (f), 8 Rain Merk (pu), 20
Couture Color (4th), 57 Perdo (pu), 35
Kate's Gair (pu), 100 Glen George (pu), 10
ran. NR: Pastonsi Pride. 30, 4, 16. Miss C
Saunders at Northempton. Tote: 28.85:
527.57.
A.15 (2m bright 1, MCTDSY ANTHEM (B. 14.38.

4.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, MIC-MAC EXPRESS (Mr N Mitchet, B-2); 2, Roving Seel (Mr T McCarthy, 11-4); 3, Trust The Gypsy (Mr M Felton, 5-2 tay). ALSO RAN: 100-30 Luvarides (4th), 12 Duck Or Grouse (5th), Rockmount Rose (pu), 20 New Market (ro), Tinto Hill, 50 Grateful Heir (6th), in The Chik (f), Wills Range (pu), Young Outlaw (pu). 12 ran. MR: Prvateperformance, Vulgans Love. 25t, 51, 15t, 30, 61 Mrs L Sycletmone at Sassbury. Total: 65.40; 21.70, C1.80, E1.50. DF: E10.90. CSF: E17.78. 257.57.
4.15 (2m holis) 1, VICTORY ANTHEM (R. Durwootly, 3-1); 2, Jump Start (N Health, 95-40); 3. Middlewick (Mr C. Ward Thomas, 2-1 lav). ALSO RAN: 8-1 Hearthorns Glen (5th), 14 Spur Bay (4th), 16 Dawn Chence (6th), Sibestream, 50 Hearnah Bee. 8 ran. 15, 3, 15, 4, 8L N Headerson at Lambourn. Tota: 23.00; 21.40, 21.10, 21.40. DF: 25.30. CSF: 210.58. 210.56.

4.45 (2m 6f ch) 1, CHERRYKINO (H-Davies, 11-8 lav); 2, L. Fortiver (C Maude, 16-1); 3, Culcki Rapor (J Frost, 10-1).

ALSO RAN; 8 Vale Ci Secrecy (4th), This herite Danger (f), 11 Armais (ur), 14 Bricket Wood (pu), Solicitor's Choice (8th), 25 Romany Spitt, 33 Mourne Warnfor (pu), Outdest (vn), 40 Bar Tirem (5th), 50 Bay Fox (ur), 13 ran, NR: Combaraptin, 12, 134, 5, 20, 334. T Foreier at Warntage, Totac 22.40, 61.50, 22.10, 23.30.

DF: 217.00. CSF: 223.03. DF: £17.00. CSF: £22.03.

5.15 (2m fiet) 1. STRATH ROYAL (F. Murtagh, 25-1); 2. Syd's Brother (Mr T. Junias, 8-1); 3. Russinstry (P. McEntes, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5 (-laws Cottage Walk, Applied Graphics, 15-2 Beck Cottage, 8 Breechas Boy, Pm Toby, 10 Bibo Bergins, 12 Spoothist Wood, Bootlide (4th), 15 Rettic, Rude Reply, 20 The Golam, 25 Den Laur, 33 Burmese Poerl, Cawarra Boy, Laprimess, Stermese Poerl, Cawarra Boy, Laprimess, Stermese Poerl, Cawarra Boy, Laprimess, Stermese Poerl, Cawarra Boy, Laprimess, Sterm, 14-1, 1

GRAHAM Bradley won a crucial credibility test yesterday when the Jockey Club lie Brooks at Lambourn. upheld his appeal against a £500 fine imposed by the

Southwell stewards under the "non-triers" rule. If the Portman Square verdict had gone the other way, it could have spelled the beginning of the end for the 31year-old rider, whose career

RACING CORRESONDENT

has been blighted by controversy. Bradley, who has twice had

MANDARIN

2.20 Ring Of Fortune. 2.50 Island Jetsetter.

his licence withdrawn by the
Jockey Chib, attempted to put
soon tailed off. Jockey Club, attempted to put the past behind him at the start of this season when he became stable lockey to Char-

But the new start was threatened at Southwell on January 22, when the local stewards took a dim view over the way he rode Marouat, who was pulled up in the Scrooge Claiming Chase.

The gelding, described by Timeform as "not one to trust" and given a squiggle by his name, drifted from 6-4 to 3-1 in the betting, quickly lost

Bradley, who won the Cheltenham Gold Cup in 1983, readily accepted the situation, but the stewards concluded the jockey had not allowed

Bradley wins crucial appeal over fine

Marouat to run on its merits. The decision infuriated Bradley, and Brooks, trainer of the horse, who described it as a stur on himself, his jockey, and the horse's owner, Lady Joseph.

Brooks was a key witness at yesterday's two-hour hearing. where the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee saw films

where he also displayed a

reluctance to race with zest. Bradley, his lawyer, Peter McCormick, and Brooks, emerged from Portman Square elated at the result of the disciplinary hearing. "I am very pleased. Common sense has prevailed," the jockev said.

Brooks added: "I am delighted that the confidence my owners have put in Brad has been vindicated."

The happy outcome for those involved should not be allowed to mask the highly

of Marouat's previous races unsatisfactory way in which disciplinary hearings contin-

ue to be conducted. It is ridiculous in the Nineties that such quasi-judicial events, which can affect the future careers and livelihoods of trainers and jockeys. should be held behind closed doors.

Other professional bodies. including the Law Society and the British Medical Association, allow such hearings to be fully reported and Lord Hartington, the Jockey Club's senior steward, should follow their example.

3.50 KING JOHN HANDICAP CHASE (\$2,454: 3m) (6 runners) RICHARD EVANS 2.50 ISLAND JETSETTER (nap). 4.50 Bean King.

3.20 Miramac. 3.50 Basiles. 4.20 Major Kinsman. 4.50 Mad Casanova. 5.20 Bean King.

THUNDERER

2.20 Palindromic Pin

2.50 Island Jetsetter,

3.20 Beaumood. 3.50 Hurry Up Henry. 4.20 Senor Thomas. 4.50 Mad Cassnova.

2,20 PITCHCROFT NOVICES HURDLE (£1,235; 2m 4f) (17 runners) 9-11405 CHILD OF THE MIST 32 (D.9.5) (C Health O Sharwood 6-12-0.

122212 RING OF FORTUNE 11 (B.BF.G) (F Bur) M Pipe 4-11-5.

Off. AMANIS 186 (D) (Cd I Reid) K Dalley T-11-2.

CALLEROSE (Bits A MISSET) T-FORMER 6-11-2.

3/6525 COMISDY SPY 22 (Min J Burnett) Min A Hawitt 8-11-2.

O GUITING GRAY 25 (Min J Burnett) Min A Hawitt 8-11-2.

F MISGA SPORT 16 (Min J Burnett) Min Min A Hawitt 8-11-2.

JOURNAL OF THE MIN A MIN P Soudemore
M Perrett
H Davies
S J O'Nell
Mr G Morrow (7)
K Consented (7)
Date McCown
D Murphy
D Tagg 89. SPS PALINOROUSC PP 30 (sins 8 Marchard) J Gifford 7-11-2 ... 9/0 RASALOO 107 (K Bell) C Broad 8-11-2 D Tegg
B de Hean
D Byrne
C Llewellyn
T Granthem
R Guest 10 PAGALOD 107 (K Berry C Broad 5-11-2...)
11 00P SHOCK TACTICS 79 (Dules of Devenshire) Mrs F Welleyn 5-11-2...
12 0 TALLS U WIN 13 (Ars A Bile) Mrs S Mircs 5-11-2...
13 P UFANO 117 (N Heirle) T Forester 6-11-2...
14 00 KINSTS NELL 44 (N Therculles) J Old 6-10-11...
15 INATIVE MACCC 22 (R Aucast) F Arcestrong 5-10-11...
16 0PP4-P0 PENARTH 15 (P Devenport) Mrs N Sharps 9-10-11...
17 0480 COMMANCHE SIGUX 74 (V) (Airs L Cooper) K Morgan 4-10-2....

RETITING: 11-8 Ring Of Fortune, 7-2 Child Of The Met, 5-1 Agent, 6-1 Callerose, 8-1 Palindromic Pip, 18-1 Concentration Bloos: 14-1 others. 1991; MEETING ABANDONED - WATERLOGGED COURSE FORM FOCUS

CHILD OF THE MIST lest showed form when 18 4th of 5 to Lin And Lead in grade I Cambon Hurdin at Meeting 2m 47 12bpt, good) in December. HIMO OF FORTUNE 42 2nd of 8 to Petendu in Chapetow (2m, soft) hurding previously best Days Of Thunder 20 in 10-tuner Plustageton (2m, good) novice hurdin, AGARB best Ugolin De Le Wess 11 in 8-runner Dun-

tisk (2m 4f, good) bumper. COMEDY SPY 3M 2nd of 10 to Chin's Train in Woherhampton (2m, good) novice hardle on penaltimate start. GURTING GRAY 34f 10th of 21 to Chuck Carley in Kempton (2m, good to tim) bumper. NATIVE MASIC 27f 7th of 16f to Santaray in Notinghem (2m, good) novice hurdle. Belection: RING OF FORTUNE (msp)

2.50 STOURPORT HANDICAP CHASE (22,469: 2m) (7 runners) Long hendicap: Artic Chief 9-8. BETTING: 5-2 bland Jacobser, 9-1 Covellar Crossett, 9-2 Mingmore, 6-1 Tildebo, 8-1 Siglark Wonder, 10-1 Arolis Chief, 14-1 Lor Mose.

FORM FOCUS

TILDESO best Acre HB 2 in 4-namer Plumpton (2m, good) handican chase in November, ISI AND NET SET TURN et 2nd et 8 is dray Jack in Sauticed (2m, good) handicap chase; welfer best Edong 1 thi in 5-namer Wetherby (2m, good) handicap chase in November, CAVALLER CROSSETT best interior Lib 194 in 6-nations Apr. (2m., heavy) handloop chase.

PERMINDER SNI and of 4 to Transidor to Marinal Resen. (2m 11, good to firm) conditional jockeye handloop chase; serier best TRLDEBO (7th better off) 77 in 11-union; handloop chase over course and distance (soft). SKYLARK WONDER 137 5th of 10 to Whatever You Like in Lingdield (firm, good) handloop chase on panultimate start.

Besection: ISLAND JETSETTER

3.20 PORTLAND WALKCLASSING HURDLE (£1,720: 2m) (18 runners)

7 47500P NORDIC DELIGHT 96 (V.CD.F.G.S) (8 Jannings) M Pipe 5-11-6
8 09-1968 EDWARD SCYMOUR 14 (W Jenics) W Jenics 5-11-4
10 20-001 KING'S SHILLING 14 (D) (K Pininid) Miss 5-11-4
10 20-001 KING'S SHILLING 14 (D) (K Pininid) Miss 8 Oliver 5-11-4
11 1P/22U-3 MERAMAC 27 (D.F.G.S) (R Proof.) R Proof. 11-14
12 6-PPP TORNICK 37 (B) (R Owen) L Codd 7-11-4
13 PS/F-P64 SKOMAL 18 (D.F.G.S) (Dr K Boven) 8 Bowen 10-11-3
14 PO-UP ARBITOCRATIC PETER 89 (B) (A Williams) D Jenny 5-11-2
15 04/P-39 FIGHTHING DAYS 5 (D.F.) P (Higson) A Moore 6-11-0
16 04/P-39 FIGHTHING DAYS 5 (D.F.) P (Higson) D Berchell 6-11-0
17 698-95 HAYLEY'S LASS 18 (Ars R Bradley) J Beacley 6-10-13
18 565 BURNOTICH GPIL 286 (R Hoghes) M Ecidoy 6-10-6
BETTINIS 3-1 Mirzones. 4-1 Policel, 6-1 Sesumpost, Fishting Days. 8-1 Nordio D 82 86 J Shoemark
D Styrms
G Moore
D J Burchell
Mr G Lowie (7)
Mr R David (7) 87 BETTINE: 3-1 Mirames, 4-1 Policck, 6-1 Sesumood, Fighting Days, 6-1 Nordic Delight, King's Shilling, 10-1, Policcell, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

POLLOCK best Mothram's Gold 21/41 in 8-tunner
Taurism (2m 3f, good to firm) handicap handle; previousity 101 2nd of 21 to Vn. Lute in Wincenton (2m, good) claiming hurdle with histoanton (2m, good) claiming hurdle with histoanton (2m) it 3rd.

BEAUMOOD 15/H 3rd of 10 to Brochme Grey in 5/thburgh (3m, good) claiming hurdle; best Noddle
14 in 14-runner Edinburgh (2m 4f, good) meiden

Selection: POLLOCK

RICHARD EVANS

3.30 Shoon Wind.

THUNDERER MANDARIN 2.00 Candy Tuff, 2.30 Peanuts Pet. 2.00 Candy Tuff. 2.30 Peanuts Pet. 3.00 Lothian Pilot. 3.30 BLUFF ENOLL 3.00 Lothian Pilot. 3.30 SHOON WIND (nap). 4.00 Sweet City. 4.30 Steele Justice. 5.00 Konvekta Control.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

(nap).
4.00 Royal Illusion.
4.30 Steele Justice.
5.00 Kenvelot, Control.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.30 PEANUTS PET. Brian Book 4.30 Steele Justice.

2.00 LOTHIAN PLUMBING SUPPLIES NOVICES HURDLE 1 485411 CANDY TUFF 53 (D.S.S) (G Stevenson) Mrs G Reveloy 6·13-0 P Niven © 50
2 D6-1224 WESTWELL BOY 70 (G) (D Yesdon) P Beaumont 6·11-8 P A Fartrall 88
3 0/85F BROTHER ANDREW 90 (B McMittan) W A Stephenson 6·11-2 J Supple (7)
65 UP14FF WREGIN MELODY 680 (G) (Exons of G Childs) F Watson 11·11-2 Mr S Lyons (7)
6 02214 HELIOPSIS 21 (G) (M Godernan & D Godernan) M Hammond 4·10-13 D Bentley (7)
65 BETTING: 2-6 Candy Tuff, 5-1 Heliopais, 8-1 Westwell Boy, 12-1 Brother Andrew, 20-1 Wreldn Mei 1991: ANOTHER DYER 7-11-2 N Doughty (11-4) G Richards 9 ran

2.30 POTTERTON MYSON NOVICES CHASE (52,638: 2m 196yd) (8 runners)

SETTING: 15-8 Peenuts Pet, 4-1 Centenery Star, 11-2 Arpai Forever, 6-1 Dickle's Gin, 6-1 Lad 10-1 Space Cross, 14-1 Phila Pride, 25-1 Gender Kennett. 1991: LOTHIAN CAPTAIN 6-11-8 N Doughty (11-8) G Richards 9 ran 3.00 ebf shires bathroom national hunt novices hurdle Ψ

(Qualifier: £2,108: 2m 2f) (19 runners) 2 25-27-3 BRI BMAC IT I (Les Construction previously 1-4 Construction provided by 1-4 Construction prov BETTING: 5-2 Lothian Pilot, 3-1 Simple Pleasure, 11-2 Smart Pal, 13-2 Big Meo, 8-1 Timentaye, 12-1 Gordon Pasha, 16-1 Indian Raider, 20-1 others.

1991: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

kong handicap: Over And Above 9-9.
BETTING: 11-4 Over And Above, 3-1 Hurry Lip Henry, 4-1 Arctic Teel, 6-1 Basties, 8-1 Pherosh's Leen, 10-1
Prides Melor.

FORM FOCUS

PHARCAH'S LAEN saddle slipped when pulled up behind Top Of Gold in 19-runner emeteur riders hendisep chase at Chettenham (8m. good); earlier beat Steeple View 21/4 in 5-runner Vierwick (3m 11, good to soft) chase in January 1980.

HURRY UP HENRY 28 4th of 19 to See leland in Worpseler (3m. good to soft) present riders handloop chase where BASRLEA (7b worse off) intig every chance when unsesting rider 4 out. BASILEA

best Ther-An-Bharr 201 in 4-runner Lingsleid (2m 4f., good) hendicap chase on penutitimate start. PUKKA HALOR 311 5th of 10 to Hollamann in Foliasione (2m, good) handicap chase. ARCTIC TEAL best Playpen 36 (per clear) in 8-runner Tearton (3m, good) handicap chase on penutiner tearton (3m, AND ABOVE 8t 2nd of 8 to Rare Luck at Plumpton (2m, 1f. cored to firm) are sensitivate start.

4.20 EBF ST BARNABAS NOVICES CHASE (Div I: £1,880; 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1 00-1FU2 MAJOR KINSMAN 14 (D,S) (M Feithrother) R Lee 7-11-10 A Maguire 2 000-P EIGHTY EIGHT 15 (Mrs H Dowson) Mrs H Dowson 7-11-3 S Turner 4 000-P FREDDY CWEN 34 (R Owen) L Codd 6-11-3 S Turner 4 000-P FREDDY CWEN 34 (R Owen) L Codd 6-11-3 S Turner 5 SPPPP KRUGGERAN SHUGGLER 9 (B,S) (F Hayton) C Pophem 10-11-3 Mertin Jones 6 PPP/P0- LEAVE IT OUT 352 (G Gregorn) G Gregorn 10-11-3 Mertin Jones 6 PPP/P0- LEAVE IT OUT 352 (G Gregorn) G Gregorn 10-11-3 R Greene (S) 3-3/6/P3 SENOR TOMAS 14 (B) (M Berger) O Sherwood 9-11-8 D Oeborn 9 0P STRIKE IT RIGHT 88 (R Williams) C Vernon Milet 7-11-18 W Humphreys 10 500-PPP ROCHE ROSE 14 (S Torr) Miss S Wilton 8-10-12 S Davies (S) BETTING: Evens Mejor Kinemen, 11-8 Senor Thomes, 10-1 Friende Again, 18-1 Strike II Right, 20-1 Leave It Out, 25-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MAJOR KINSMAN 2! 2nd of 9 to Ement Knight in Bangor (2m 44, soft) novice chase with SENOR Uttouster (3m 2f, good) novice chase on penultimets start.

Bangor (2m 4f, soft) in November.

STATE MAJOR KINSMAN

4.50 EBF ST BARNABAS NOVICES CHASE (Div II: £1,843: 2m 4f) (9 runners) 1 31343 MAD CASANOVA 14 (B.S) (M Marchant) O Sherwood 7-11-10. J Caborne © 99
2 DPP ABINGDON BOY 32 (M Johnson) Algas H Knight 7-11-3. M Richards — 3 8P0-54P CONSTRUCTION King 38 (B) (King Syndiosis) R Dickin 6-11-6. Martin Jones 79
4 P40025 CRUISE CONTROL 5 (M Wilmott) M Wildinson 6-11-8. Martin Jones 79
5 4PP-0PP HONEYWALL LAD 11 (B Ners) (B Thomes 7-11-8. D Bridgewater (B) — 6 4PP-0PP HONEYWALL LAD 11 (B Ners) (B Thomes 7-11-8. D Bridgewater (B) — 7 PF0540 MANNYS CHOICE 16 (Air C Mason-Straigh) A Moore 7-11-9. G Liewellyn — 8 230215 THE LIGHTER SIDE 85 (F.G) (D Davise) M Charles 8-11-3. Judy Device (7) — 9 0016-09 ANYONE'S FANCY 71 (BF,S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 7-10-12. G Upton — 6 Upton —

BETTING: 2-1 Med Cerenove, 3-1 Anyone's Fancy, 4-1 Hursthill, 6-1 Construction King, 8-1 The Lighter Side, 10-1 Cruise Control, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS January.
CRUISE CONTROL 12 2nd of 7 to Bounday Duty in Warwick (2m, good to soft) novice chase on penulti-reate start. HURSTHILL 39 7th of 10 to Person's

HAD CASANOVA 6 and of 12 to Fidding Three in Following Casanova 6 and of 12 to Fidding Three in Thomas in Towassier (2m, good) novice chase. CONSTRUCTION KING 29 and of 8 to Logarismo in Hartet Resen (2m 11, good) novice chase in Southwest (AW, 3m) handloop hundle or constitute in the State Chasing Solution (2m) handloop hundle or constitute in the State Chasing Solution (2m) and of 21 to Bullyanks in Chepstow (2m 41, good to soft control of the State Chasing Solution (2m) and of 21 to Bullyanks in Chepstow (2m 41, good to soft control of the State Chasing Solution (2m) and the State Chasing Solut

5.20 PERSHORE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,235: 2m) (13 runners) 😑

..... H Durwoody # 85 D48 MAN AMONG MEN 12 (J Smith) J Brackey 4-10-1 D Stopping — BETTING: 8-11 Been King, 7-2 Sen Fernando, 8-1 Angele Kise, 8-1 Petricont Power, 18-1 Weinschen, 14-1 offen.

FORM FOCUS BEAN KING best Kleinch (I in Source Followions (2m 110yd, good to film) nevice hurdle. SAN FERNANDO 171 this to 14 satisfied Copee in Newbury (2m 4t, good) novice hurdle. SAN FERNANDO 2000) novice hurdle on peruntimete section. PETICOAT POWER 34 2nd of 14 to Mulbank in

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS Winners Runners Percent Mare A Harm P Drauchamur A Magaine I Steamart A S Smith G McCourt

 $3.30\,$ KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS AND CHARLOTTE LADY REAY CHALLENGE CUP (Handicap chase: £4,833: 3m) (8 runners)

BETTING: 9-4 Shoon Wind, 11-4 Bloff Kooli, 6-1 Viting Rocket, 8-1 Leokier, J-J-Henry, 72-1 Kirsty's Boy, 14-1 Films, 16-1 Stehopdate.

1981: SNOWFIRE CHAP 8-10-11 P Niven (5-2 tev) Mrs G Reveloy 5 mm

4.00 CROSS KEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,759: 2m 2f) (7 runners) Long handloan: Fernando Reyes 9-8, Knave Of Clubs 9-5.
BETTING: 2-1 Sweet City, 3-1 Royal Busion, 9-2 Sir Peter Lely, 5-1 Fernando Reyes, 5-1 Sany Mover, 18-1 All Welcome, 25-1 Knave Of Clubs.

1991: TIMURS DOUBLE 10-11-10 Mr C Sample (8-13 fev) Maj W Sample 4 ran 4.30 JOHN RUTHERFORD, CLAAS UK HUNTER CHASE

(Amateurs: £2,143: 3m) (8 runners)

BETTING: 5-4 Steele Justice, 5-2 Lord Parms, 5-1 Andrew, 8-1 Once Stung, 12-1 Heroic Way, 14-1 Tentevie, 16-1 others. 1991: CHURCH WARDEN 12-11-0 Mr R Hele (5-2) G Richards 6 ran

5.00 MARCH BUMPER NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,758: 2m) (15 runners) TEATINE GIRI. (W Forster) R Lamb 5-11-0 Miss S Lamb (7)
DON'T TELL JUDY (A Wight) Mrs G Reveloy 4-11-2 Mr M Suckley (7)
LORD TIM (G Herris) C Thomton 4-11-2 D Bentley (7)
MANAGEMENT (D Doughty) R Alian 4-11-2 F Mustagn (8)
MUSSC TEMPO 6 (J Heptum) L Lungo 4-11-2 F Mustagn (8)
TOY SOLDIER (Mrs V Cunningham) Mrs V Aconley 4-11-2 P Midgley (8)
G WHY NOT EQUINAME 74 (BF) (Equineme 1.45) D Eddy 4-11-2 D J Motfatt (7)
East Konnetts Control 11-2 Mr Knithet 2-1 Mendagham (9)

No SOLIND PROFIT 12 (W Young) 4-10-11 D J Motfatt (7) BETTING: Evens Konvekta Control, 11-2 Mr Knitwit, 7-1 Hondeghern, 10-1 Lord Tim, Don't Tell Judy, 12-1 Strong Sound, 16-1 others.

1991: SCOTTISH MOUNTAIN 5-11-3 L Mulaney (20-1) M Esterby 17 ran COURSE SPECIALISTS Rides Per cent

G Richards
Mrs G Reveloy
M Hammond
T Tate
G Moore
P Beautypoin 30.8 22.0 21.2 20.0 18.5 17.0

Thorpe and **Johnson** provide sole resistance

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN PORT OF SPAIN

BRAVE batting by Graham Thorpe and Paul Johnson on a treacherous pitch provided the main resistance here yesterday, as England went to the verge of defeat against West Indies in the first A team Test match. England were left an academic target of 279 to win after West Indies declared overnight. and by tea they had struggled

On a pitch from which the ball reared one moment and crept along the ground the next, England were given no chance on a surface which tested courage as much as technique. Three early wick-ets fell before Thorpe and Johnson added 77 in 19

Otherwise the four West Indian fast bowlers were in control. Joseph and Benjamin, the two newcomers, looked more awkward to play than Walsh or Gray, but all four bowled better than England had done. They were helped by their greater speed, but overall they kept a better line as they took full advan-tage of the helpful conditions.

England were 29 for three in the thirteenth over. Bicknell had his off-stump flattened by a no-ball as he played back. Ramprakash was leg-before when a yorker landed on his foot, and Morris stood no chance as a ball shot through at ankle-height. Thorpe and Johnson both needed treatment more than once, after being hit mostly on the hands, as they struggled on for 90 minutes either

side of lunch. Almost as soon as Johnson arrived, he had to contend with a ball from Benjamin which soared over both his head and the wicketkeeper's for four byes. The next ball scuttled along the ground.

ate not included. The top low fearns questy for the semi-finals. The second-placed plays the thro-placed in Auchiand on March 20, and the first placed plays the fourth-placed in Sydney on March 22 However, if Austra-lia qualify for the serio-finals, they will play in Sydney New Zosland will play in Auchiand unless they meet Australia A second day her been set ande for each semi last if the march cannot be composed on the scheduled day, if will be restarted the next day if there is no result than the team heading higher in

inial The linal is in Melbourne on March 25

Johnson and Thorpe both did well as they managed to keep several threatening balls down while they were fending them off. They drove when it was possible to do so, and they also benefitted from the absence of a deep third

Their stand ended when both were leg-before in successive overs. Thorpe went first, as he tried to work a ball to the onside and then Johnson was undone by a ball that kept low as he stretched forward. England had lost three wickets in eight balls when Stephenson played loosely outside the off-stump and was caught behind. Cork was bowled soon afterwards before Rhodes and Salisbury stayed together until tea.

WEST INDIES A: First Innings 249 (Richard 54, A H Gray 50) Second Innings 241 for 9 dec (C A B J P Stephenson 4 for 57). ENGLAND A: First Innings Bicknefi 54)

Second Innings D J Bioknell b Joseph
"H Morris Dw b Welsh
M R Remprakash tow b Ber
P Johnson ibw b Walsh

Total (7 wkts) 127
T A Munton and R A Pick to bat
FALL OF WICKETS, 1-14 2-39 3-29, 4-106, 6-106, 6-106, 7-110

☐ Dilip Vengsarkar, the former Indian captain, an-nounced his retirement from first-class cricket yesterday after his team, Bombay, lost their Ranji Trophy semi-final to Delhi in Bombay. Vengsarkar, aged 35, who made his international debut in 1975, made 6,868 runs in his 116 Tests, including 17 centuries, three of which were

at Lord's. ☐ Gloucestershire are giving a one-year contract to Justin Vaughan, aged 24, an allrounder from Auckland.

TABLE, FIXTURES AND RESULTS

ment after April 9 will be faced with problems, among them the football grounds of England.
Grounds at both ends of the spectrum are in deep trou-

ble. At the top end, a failure of finance and imagination means that England may never again be able to stage the World Cup, while throughout the rest of the League the Taylor Report threatens the existence of a number of clubs. With the Premier League

The announcement of

the general election

means that any moves

by football to revise the Taylor Report are in abeyance. But

whoever forms the govern-

the present focus of attention. perhaps the most worrying Jevod Meindad 89), Zimbabwe 201-7 India 1-0 v Sri Lanka — no neuit West Indias 264-8 (B C Lars 72, C L Hooper 53, R B Rechardson 55); Zimbabwe 169-7 (A Shan 60 not out. D L Houghton 56); South Africa 190-7 (P N Kursten 90), New Zeoland 191-3 (M J Greotisetch 88, R T Lathom 60) Australia 237-8 (D M Jones 90), India 234 (M Azhanudian 93), India 24 (M Azhanudian 93), India 24 (M Azhanudian 93), India 24 (M D Crowe 74 not out, A H Jones 57), Zimbabwe 105-7 (R S Mafhanama 58, A Ranshunga 64 not out), New Zealand 182-3 (M D Crowe 74 not out), A H Jones 57), Zimbabwe 105-7, India 216 (S R Tendulias 74 not out), Palistatan 172 (Aamer Soheil 82) South Africa 20-8 (P N Kratten 58), West Indias 136 (A L Logg 61; M W Pringle 4-11) aspect is the poverty of planning by leading clubs. In order to stage the World Cup, a country has to have two grounds with a capacity of 60,000. Unless Manchester gets its Olympic stadium, or Twickenham is used alongside Wembley (an unhappy prospect for anyone who has watched football at Lansdowne Road, Dublin), Engiand cannot fulfil that requirement. Whereas Italy rebuilt the San Siro for the 1990 World Cup, the Premier League will be played in

> pocket-size stadiums. "People talk about a European league, but there's no ground apart from Old Trafford in this country which is Ron Noades, chairman and chief executive of Crystal Pal-

ace, said. The present basis is refurbishing sub-standard stadiums up and down the country. But they should designate eight regional sites for constructing new purpose-built modern stadiums, not trying to rebuild 92 grounds. It should be government-led, and they should be agreeing on sites for regional stadiums

Clubs at both ends of the scale in

Seat of power: but Highbury stadium, home of George Graham's League champions, Arsenal, lags behind the best in Europe

Football lacks grounds for hope

schemes, it is hard to see

where the money for radical

developments will come from.

ed to develop the stadium and

the team." Noades said. "You

can't do it. In Europe, clubs

don't do it. They concentrate

f the problems at the top end are sizeable, they are

more pressing at the oth-

er end of the scale as the

smaller clubs try to come to

terms with the implications of

the Taylor Report. There are

widespread worries that the

financial demands are be-

yond the compass of many

much like to provide an all-

seat facility," John Dennis.

the Barnsley chairman, said,

"but the practicality of pro-

viding the finance is proving

almost impossible. The reali-

ty is that we have to find large

sums. It would be nice to have

completed the programme by

the requisite date, but unfor-

"In principle we would very

on the team."

smail clubs.

"Crystal Palace are expect-

England are finding it difficult to fulfil the demand for modern, safe

stadiums, Peter Ball reports with sufficient capacity. Ingovernment initiates the

stead, we are going at it Noades singled out Old Trafford as the one exception, but there are grave doubts among Manchester United supporters. When the redevelopment of the Stretford End takes place, at a cost of between £10 million and £12 million, capacity will be re-duced to 43,000, below the

It would cost another £15 million to increase it to 50,000, and for the moment United have no plans to take that step, although if they are to compete on equal terms with the likes of Milan and Barcelona should the European league materialise, a capacity nearer 60.000 would

'club's average attendance

em essential Even at 43,000. United will have the biggest club ground in the country, with Aston Villa and Leeds United planning for just over 40,006, and

Arsenal falling just below.

It is a sad lack of confidence, or of vision, meaning that for all the good intentions. English facilities will lag further behind the state of the art. Instead of building grounds for a Premier League and European future in the 21st century, clubs are doing enough to get by in the last decade of the 20th century. "It is like setting out today to build the M25 with three lanes." Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League,

maid. But unless the Premier League does realise the riches promised in the FA blueprint or, as Noades suggests, the

tunately in our case, and that of 90 per cent of the second division, it is just not practicable The third and fourth divi-

sion clubs have until 1999 to meet the all-seat requirements, putting them in a rather better position than second division clubs at the moment. The chancellor's decision to extend the betting tax relief for five more years will give them further help. "It will enable us to increase significantly the level

of grant aid, particularly for smaller clubs which will need most help," Richard Faulk-ner, of the Football Trust, said, "and we will be discussing new ceiling levels of grant in the near future. This decision does of course depend on the continued health of the football pools business, and it. is obviously vital for football that if a national lottery is introduced, pools turnover is unaffected."

The chancellor's decision could see the present £500,000 grant raised to £1 million, but many believe that further steps are required. "The level of support itself has to change," Ian Stott, of Old-ham Athletic, the chairman of the Football League Taylor implementation committee. said. "It is no good giving smaller clubs 75 per cent grants, because they can't find the remaining 25 per cent. If they don't want to give 100 per cent of the cost, then

it has to be 90 per cent or 95 per cent.' There is also a groundswell of opinion in favour of look-ing again at the all-seat re-quirement liself, certainly for the lower-division clubs. Noades has suggested that an lement of standing should be retained even for the first division, and it will be discussed at the Premier League

meeting on Friday. There is little doubt that.

with the essential safety quali-

fications, it would be popular. The Football Supporters' Association support the idea, as do many clubs.

round replay at Derby, Burnley supporters in the bottom tier behind one goal spent the last half-hour standing, with banners reading "Save Our Terraces" and "Make A Stand Against Seats" draped over the railings. "Who doesn't want standing?" Noades said. "I've been flooded out with support, and apart from Mr de Quidt [the Football Licensing Authority spokesmanj there has been no criticism. And the FLA shouldn't have an opinion — its job is to imple-ment the government's decisions."

n the FA Cup third-

But with football lacking an effective lobby, the government has shown no signs of weakening so far, and most people in the game concede that Noades's cause is hopeless. There is more hope for the third and fourth division clubs, with suggestions that the all-seat requirement might be lifted, particularly if there is a change of

government. 'I think to let people off the hook completely and just waive the requirement for the lower divisions would be wrong." Stott said. "There is a move towards having more seats anyway, and a lot of clubs want to improve their grounds.

"But there should be a reappraisal of how far you have to go in the lower divisions. If the seating requirement was tied to the average attendance that would seem to be about

right.
It is a nonsense to have people going for grants to put in sears which won't be used. But if you don't do that, then you must be allowed to use standing areas when there is TENNIS

McEnroe stoops to all the old lows

By Andrew Longmore TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

FLORIDA has finally found out what it had been missing all these years and the 12,000 on the main court, who were variously labelled dorks, morons and worse through a torrid night, must have wondered if they were actually better off before the newcomer hit town. Welcome to Key Biscayne, Mr McEnroe.

John McEnroe had promised to include some new stops on his itinerary in possibly his last full season on the tour and, in two hours 38 minutes, the Floridians were treated - if that is the right word - to the full routine he has been trailing round the world for the past 12 years.

It was as if he was determined to make up for lost time on his first visit to the Lipton International. The abuse, the deliberate disruptions, the brilliance. The act. so refreshingly clean and remorseful in a memorable Australian Open, has sadly returned to normal and if the final outcome, victory over Goran Ivanisevic, the No. 5 seed, by 4-6, 7-5, 7-5 was admirable, the manner of it was rather less so.

Sadly, the craven umpiring of Paulo Pereira was equally true to form. While McEnroe

Serving for the match at 5-4, he lost the next three games, McEnroe setting up the break back and then completing his first win over Ivanisevic in four meetings with forehand and backhand passes of taut nerve and exquisite timing. Victory was greated with a two-handed salute and all seemed to be forgiven, except by Ivanisevic, who reserved his final volley for Pereira. "He was bad. He should go to a junior tourna-ment before he comes here again. McEnroe was complaining all the time and I was given a violation for

McEnroe, in contrast, things. I don't know why they have to stoop to those levels. was rather less eventful. Havat the moment, there is noththings on his mind. His wedding in April, perhaps.

Results, page 29

Palistani 173 (Aamer Schail 82) Bouth Africa 200-8 (P.N. Kristen 58), West Indias 139 (A. L. Lorge 91; M.W. Pringle 4-11) Australia 171 (T.M. Moody 51, 17 Botham 4-31), England 173-2 (G.A. Gooch 58, 1 T. Botham 53) India 203-7 (G. R. Gooch 58, 1 T. Botham 53) India 203-7 (S. P. Tendulker 81), Zimbebwe 104-1. Sri Lanka 189-9 (P. A. de 64vs 62), Australia 190-3 (G.R. Marsh 60, 7.M. Moody 57) West Indias 203-7 (B. C. Laris 52), New Zasiand 208-5 (M. D. Crowe 81 not out, M. J. Greetbetch 63, G. Handa 201-7 (A. C. Hudson 54), Pakistan 173-8 England 208-6 (N. H. Fabrother 63, A. J. Stewart 69), Sri Lanka 174 (C.C. Lews 4-30) India 197 (M. Acharudden 61, A. C. Cummins 4-33), West Indias 195-5 (K. L. Arthurlon 68 not out) — Wear Indias 197-198-199, Section 197-198, South Africa 164-3 (K.C. Wessels 70, P. N. Kirsten 62 not out) Pakistan 175 (A. Section 175), New Zasiand 231-8 (B. J. Greetbetch 73, A. H. Jones 67), South Africa 203-4 (K. C. Wessels 85, A. Hudson 78) England 208-7 (A. J. Stewart 77, N. M. Farbrother 75 not out) — England 78, Lanka 177-9, Australia 205-5 (M. E. Waugh 66 not out, S. R. Wegels 137 England 200-8 (G. A. Hudson 177-9, Australia 205-5 (M. E. Waugh 66 not out, S. R. Wegels 137 England 200-8 (G. A. Hudson 177-9, Australia 205-5 (M. E. Waugh 66 not out, S. R. Wegels 137 England 200-8 (G. A. Hudson 178), South Africa 181-4 (P. N. Krston 64, A. C. Hudson 53) Sh. Lanka 212-5, Pakistan 216-6 (Javed Mandad 57, Salm Masis 511 The Intal is in Metbourne on March 25 PREVIOUS RESULTS: New Zealand 249-6 (M.D. Crower 100 not out. K.R. Ruthartord 57). Australes 211 (D.C. Boon 100). England 236-9 (R.A. Smith 81, D.A. Gooch 51). India 227 (R.J. Shastin 57). Palostan 220-2 (Remz Rapa 102-Javed Mandad 57 not out. West Indies 221-0 (D.L. Maynes, 93) not out. B.C. Lara 88 related hurtl. Zimbathnes 313-4 (A.Ranstunga 115 not out. A.C. Warler 83 not out. K.J. Arnott 521-5 (Fr. Lanks 314.7 (A.Ranstunga 85 not out. M.A. R. Samarasekera 75, R.S. Mananama 50). New Zestand 2104 (K.R. Ruthertord 85 not out. J. G. Weight 57). Australks 170-9, South Ahnga 171-1 (K.C. Weissels 81 not out.). J.G. Weight 57). England 160-4 (G.A. Gaoch 85, G.A. Hick 54). Palustan 254-4 (Aamer Schall 114.

NETBALL **Broomhead confident**

ENGLAND play Wales at senior and under-18 level in Cardiff on Saturday, with history on their side (Louise Taylor writes). They have played Wales 47 times at senior standard, winning 45, losing one and drawing one.

Liz Broomhead, the new England senior coach, who succeeded Betty Galsworthy last November, will be hoping to get off to a confident start in her new role.

Sheelagh Redpath has been invited to officiate in the Johnson and Johnson international series between Australia, the world champions, and New Zealand in Austra-

lia this June. Selection for Redpath, an administrator with the All England Netball Association, is a tribute to her impressive umpiring since joining the international list only two years ago.

In the national clubs' competition. Toucans, of Middlesex, knocked out Harborne, of Birmingham, the holders, 44-39 in the quarter-finals.

Harborne were without Joan Bryan, their former England international shooter, while Toucans fielded Lucia Sdao, the England centre.

Eschand Senior Bound: T Mer (East Dorsel), T Paperlo (Bedfordahre), S Fogarty (Bedfordshre), L Sdeo (McGle-sex), A Keyte (Surrey), F Murtagh (Essex Metropolitan), J Rowe (Surrey), K Lowe (Bedfordshre), S Young (Kenn), H Manufor (Meddeson).



Lineker looks to box clever

By Peter Barnard

THE conversion of Gary Lineker from on-field front man to televison front man continues apace. Lineker, exemplary in the box, is said to be bound for a post-playing career on the box and he will have done himself no harm with a series on ITV I have only just discovered called Soccer in the '70s.

If this was simply part of the large nostalgia industry that appears to be taking over television. I would not give it a first glance, but the nostalgic element is only an excuse to fill an important gap. Television sport lacks nothing in action but is seri-ously lacking in human interest, a factor that gives all sports an important extra

Soccer in the '70s is transmitted on ITV early on Saturday afternoon, with Lineker in charge. He is not yet fully at ease, inexperience giving him a stiffness, a lack of fluency that is the very opposite of what we get from him on the pitch. But that problem is easily over-come and, in other respects, he handles the show well.

SPORT ON TELEVISION THE WEEK IN REVIEW

On Saturday, the guests were Mark Lawrenson and Jimmy Case, both former Liverpool players, and the former Tottenham Hotspur and England player, Alan Mullery. In between clips from games (the boring bit). Mullery and Lawrenson jointly contributed to one of

the more amusing football yarns I have beard lately. Lawrenson was playing for Preston North End and Mullery was managing Brighton. Each was on holiday in a different part of Spain when Brighton of-fered £100,000 for Lawreason who, at the time, was imbibing "a few beers"

Guinness laced with blackcurrant juice. Lawrenson had so taken to this mixture that, when the Brighton chairman turned up, unannounced, his first experience of Lawrenson was to see the player

fall off a bar stool. However, this proved no impediment to a deal and Lawrenson signed a blank — oh, trust-

ing days — contract.

Mullery continued with his Spanish holiday and Lawrenson returned home for a medical at which point Mullery received an alarmed call from the club doctor to say that Law-renson had failed the medical. He was diabetic.

In fact, he wasn't diabetic, but the Guinness and blackcurrant had combined to make it seem that he was. All ended happily, with Lawrenson assisting Brighton to promotion from the second division.
The programme also dis-

cussed a 1970s icon, Glenn Hoddle, reminding me of my ideal England team of the time: Hoddle and ten others. That he was not made the cornerstone of the team is, in my book one of the mysteries of the age. and I was sorry to hear Case and Lawrenson share the notion that Hoddle's problem was his dislike of the physical stuff.

It took Lineker, who credited Hoddle with making most of his England goals when the two played together, to point out that there were surely umpteen play-ers to handle the physical side but not many with Hoddle's consummate skill.

If that is the kind of good sense Lineker will bring to a television career, one is tempted to say that he cannot retire soon enough. Per-haps we need to make him the game's first player-

Of course, these days, Hoddle's genius would have been coached out of him long before he reached a League club - a point nicely made in Saint 'n' Greavsie on Saturday.
This has not always been

my favourite programme but all credit to Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves for taking time to run an interview with John Cartwright, the Charlton Athletic youth coach, in which he attacked the shambolic way schools' football is run.

Greaves and St John -"naturals" in their day, with little need of stereotyped coaching — promised a return to the subject in future weeks. Good for them.

Faldo finds his swing

from film of Snead

COLF

FROM MITCHELL PLATTS. GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN ORLANDO

A HOME-movie of Sam Snead's swing has put Nick Faldo on course to regaining the Masters title at Augusta next month. The movie was taken by David Leadbetter, the golf

teacher, with whom Faldo stayed before playing in last week's Honda Classic in which he finished joint seventeenth. Faldo's intention during his seven days with Leadbetter was to erase his mechanical image. He believes that to improve he must feel more natural.
It is a remarkable change

of thinking from a player whose pursuit for perfection has led to him winning two Masters and two Open Championships. Yet it demonstrates his determination to get his game back in the groove following only one win in 20 months.

Faldo said: "The trouble is to make the swing feel natural is not natural because you are contorning the body into positions that feel unnatural. It was hard work until I saw

David's film of Snead. He filmed him on the practice range only a couple of years ago and I spotted how well Sam keeps his position throughout the swing.

"He stays so vertical through the whole swing. which is how I want to be, but I needed to see it to visualise it myself. I think of all the old school Sam Snead had the best swing of all."

For Faldo, of course, it is another challenge. To feel more natural he must first go through the metamorphosis of going from a curved look to keeping his spine straight throughout the whole swing. "I feel like Houdini at the moment but I'm getting there," he said. Faldo will hope to make further progress in the Nestié Invitational tournament, starting here tomorrow.

☐ Sponsorship of the Monte Carlo Open, to be played at Mont Agel from July 1 to 4 for a £430,000 purse, has been taken over by The European newspaper.

was allowed to goad officials and crowd at will, Ivanisevic, who had kept his notoriously hot temper cool under severe provocation, was given a code violation for his first throw of the racket. Not surprisingly, the crew-cut Croatian was incensed by the injustice of it all and as the crowd began to put their full weight behind McEnroe, his self-control began to faiter.

throwing the racket once.

thought the umpiring was just fine. "Paulo had a good night. He controlled the players well," he said. "The crowd were shouting all types of Stefan Edberg's departure ing suffered the worst defeat of his career at the hands of a qualifier, Robbie Weiss, ranked 289, the No. 2 seed was asked whether a little more Connors-like emotion would not help. "When you are playing as badly as I am ing much to get excited about, I can tell you," he replied. "I cannot remember a time I have struggled as much as this." At present, Edberg is looking and playing like a man with other

MAL

stoop to all particular old log

TENN .

Bari are prepared to spend, spend to keep their prized possession

VINCENZO Materrese, the president of Bari, is prepared to start a massive new spending programme to keep David Platt at the Italian dub next season.

Materrese, in Birmingham for the match with Aston Villa last night, said he was sure Plan would stay if relegation could be avoided. But Bari are fourth from bottom of the Italian first division, with four clubs going down at the end of the season.

"David will remain at Bari if we stay up and I am 100 per cent confident that we will," Materrese, who paid £5.5 million to Villa for the England midfield player last

A clause in his contract gives Platt the right to a move after one year if the club, promoted last season, return to the second division.

"Unfortunately, there is in-terest in him from other clubs," Materrese said. "It is not right to name them all but, if i tell you Juventus, that is the calibre of them."

Bari have already spent £23 million building a new team around Platt, who was made a captain. "With our ground, our club and our supporters, we are ready to invest more money," Materrese added.

Asked how much, he replied with a shrug: "We Materreses do not have to talk figures. Money is, not important; football is important. We want to build a great club and to keep David Platt. It takes more than one year."

The logic of yet more spending is explained by the Bari president in terms of attendances. These vary between 40,000 and 60,000. with 23,000 of them seasonricket holders. "If we can stay up, we will sell 35,000 season

tickets," Materrese said. Platt will not commit himself beyond the end of the season, when the European championship becomes his priority. "If we are as successful in the last uine matches as we have been in the previous nine, then we will not go

Platt keen to keep Italian job then sit down and decide my future, but I love it at Bari

and I have been given a great deal of help by all concerned. It would not break my heart to stay there." The image of Arsenal, already cloudy after a trouble-

some season, suffered more harm on two fronts yesterday: First came the news that. Ian Wright, the £2.5 million England forward, was the subject of a police investigation for the second time this

Then, in the club's after-noon reserve match at Loftus Road, three Arsenal players, including David O'Leary,

were sent off.

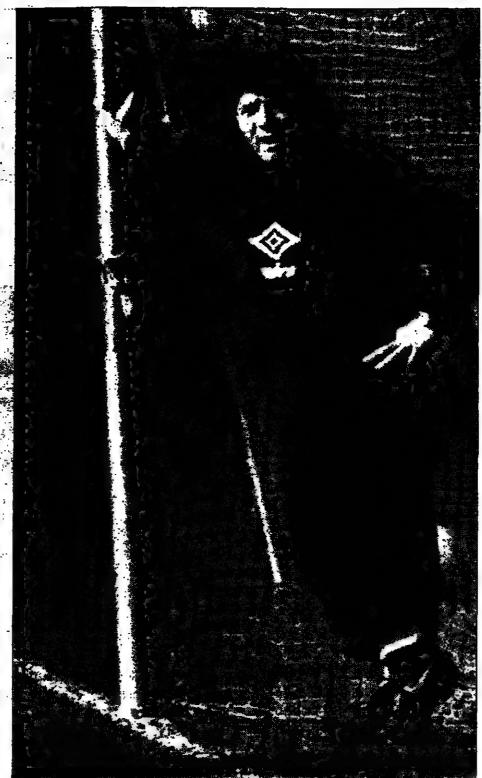
Wright, who was fined £1,500 by the Football Association in January, after a spiring incident during the first division match at Offman in November, may be subjected to further disciplinary active after a police investigation into his conduct during t Ham United last Saturday.

Local police have considered complaints from nine West Ham supporters, who claim Wright used footblanguage. Wright, who scared both the Arsenal goals in a 2: 0 win, is also accused of abit-

Statements are being taken from the nine and will be passed to the Football Association. David Bloomfield, an FA spokesman, said: "We are awaiting reports from the police before deciding what action, if any, should be

In the reserve match, which Arsenal won 3-1, O'Leary was dismissed along with his team-mates. Jim Will, the goalkeeper, and Ray Parlous, a midfield player. Paul off Michael Meaker, and booked four players from each side.

Wales compete in the Kirin Cup, which also involves Argentina and the host nation. in Japan this summer. They play Argentina, for the first time in their history, in Gifu on June 3 and Japan in Mar-



Holding on to his post: Kevin Keegan, who was said over the weekend to be on the point of giving up the manager's job at Newcastle United, gives a lie to the stories as he takes his team in training yesterday morning

Barcelona on the brink Replay may settle

teams have come and gone at the Nou Camp, without once bringing back the prize that listed Real Madrid to nearlegendary status, and Real's success, on top of Barca's failure, has long been the club's driving motivation and greatest irritation.

Yet the belief is growing that this may be Barcelona's year. Hardened by the Cup Winners' Cup final defeat by Manchester United last May, the Spanish champions have steadily stepped up the de-fence of their league title and, more to the point, have a clear lead in group B of the Cup's round-robin semi-final stage.

A home victory tomorrow over a dispirited Dynamo Kiev seems a formality that will bring Wembley and the European Cup final on May 20 within Barcelona's sights. Kiev, the Ukrainians carry-

ing the flag for the defunct Soviet Union for the last time, would appear to have little They lost, meekly, 2-0 to the

THE European Cup remains defensive solidity of Ronald last series of European Cup Barcelona's Holy Grail. Koernan or the aggresive inGreat players and great stincts of Hristo Stoichkov. Johann Cruyff, the Barcelo-

leg ties. .

Turkey.

Bremen are unlikely to con-

cede much against their less

form at a more opportune moment. After a dour 0-0

draw in their Uefa Cup quar-ter-final first leg in Ghent, the

favourites to enjoy the better

Twente Enschede on Satur-

na coach, has ordered his assistant, Angel Vilda, to report on the Czechoslovak champions, Sparta Prague, in their match against Bentica. Vilda, who saw the two

teams draw 1-1 in Lisbon two weeks' ago, said yesterday he felt Sparia were "far superior" to the Benfica side that, earlier in the compension, outclassed Arsenal.

The Barcelona v Sparta fixture in Prague on April 1 may be the group's turning point. Red Star Belgrade, the cup

holders and the leaders in group A, play their home tie with Panathinaikos in the Bulgarian capital, Sofia, because of the continuing unrest in Yugoslavia, while Sampdoria and Anderlecht, both of whom retain ambitions of reaching the final, meet in Genoa. Defeat for either would effectively end their chances of progressing

further. If Anderlecht's 3-2 defeat of the Italians in Brussels was Spaniards a formight ago the most exciting game in the and had little answer to the

Crosby's future

BY LOUISE TAYLOR AND IAN ROSS

Bruges was the highlight of MALCOLM Crosby's job secthe Cup Winners' Cup firsturity would be considerably strengthened by victory over Chelsea in an FA Cup sixth-The return leg in Belgium round replay at Roker Park tonight. Although the Sunmay again overshadow AS Monaco's meeting with AS Moma and Werder Bremen's derland caretaker manager visit to Galatasaray in has been told he is in charge until May at least, the identi-Monaco should capitalise ty of the man who will be at the helm next season is a on the 0-0 draw they earned in the Olympic stadium while subject of speculation.

Formerly the club's reserve team coach, Crosby stepped up after the dismissal of Deexperienced hosts.

Ajax could not have dreamed of finding their nis Smith at Christmas, Sunderland have blocked an approach for Crosby, who has lost only three of his 14 games in charge, to become Smith's assistant in his new job at Dutchmen were always slight Bristol City, while refusing to give him a permanent role at Roker. But should Crosby, of the second leg in Amster-dam, but the 7-0 thrashing of aged 37, steer Sunderland into the semi-finals, it is likely

he will be given the post. day must have worried the Chelsea's chances will be D Rund Gullit will almost enhanced by the return from certainly need surgery on a suspension of Vinny Jones to torn knee cartilage, putting him out of action for at least a midfield which looked lightweight without him during last week's 1-1 draw at Stam-40 days, AC Milan officials ford Bridge.

Chelsea or Sunderland will meet the winners of tonight's other sixth-round replay, be-tween Norwich City and Southampton at Carrow Road. Bowen is expected to be recalled by Norwich after six weeks in the reserves: Le Tissier returns to the Southampton attack after suspension, in place of Gilkes.

Manchester United can regain the first division leader-ship at the City Ground tonight. Victory against Not-tingham Forest will lift them a point clear of their nearest rivals, Leeds United, with two

games in hand. Although Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, has delayed naming his team, it is likely that he will make at least one, and possibly two, changes to the side which won at Sheffield United on Saturday, Hughes, the Weish international forward. is available after completing a two-match suspension, and Giggs, who was rested at the weekend; has also been included in a squad of great depth YACHTING

Briton shows surfing skills

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL ANZIO. ITALY

BARRIE Edgington, Britain's recently crowned Olympic windsurfing class world champion, opened his bid for Olympic honours with a close second place at the Anzio pre-Olympic regatta here

The day's results were capped by the Finn sailor, Richard Lott, gaining the measure of the former Olympian. Stuart Childerley, and two further fourth placings from Britain's two 470 crews. from Britain's two 470 crews, Paul Brotherton and Andy Hemmings, together with Debbie Jarvis and Sue Carr. Not to be outdone, Dave Williams and Ian Rhodes were fifth in the Tornado class.

The regatta is the first of three trials to select Britain's representatives for six of the ten Olympic classes. Unfortunatly for Edgington, the Olympic board class is not one of them, but his position restenday underlined his confidence. Penny Way, the for-mer women's world champion, struggling to regain form, finished seventh.

Jorm, finished seventh,

RESULTS: First race: Olympic windsurfing class, men: 1, 0 Egeblad (Den) 2, 8 Edgnglon (UK), 3, 7 Wallins (Austral) Women: 1, 1 Horgen (Nor); 2 D de Vines (Neih) 3, A Sensan (II) British: 7, P Way, "Firin singlehanded class: 1, 1 Devotil (II), 2, 5 Westergaard (Den), 3, F Le Castreo (Fr) British: 4, R Lott; 8, S, Chiderley 470, men: 1, Twalunaga and K Yoshmura (Japan), 2, 8 Bengtsson and J Nystrom (Swe), 3, T and T Toruste (Estona) British: 4, P Brotherton and A Hermongs, 8, N Buckley and P Newbands, 10 (Prinsel and J Smpson Women: 1, S and M Ward (Den), 2, 8 Peters and W Buelle (Ger); 3, P Hardwiger and C Prinow (Ger) British: 5, D, Jarvas and S Car Flying Dutchman: 7 and V Benger (Fr), 2 O Polen and K Frostack (Nor), 3, P Foersier and 3 Sourdow (US) British: 18, C Aptropo and J Lyne 18, C Maxield and A Bowers 21, A Stead and P Alam. Star class: 1, J Doreste and J Castells (Sof) 2, 14 Benz and B Stemmers (Switz), 3 P d'Al and A Veggelf (II) British: 10, M Hicks and D Mungs 11, A Cooper and D Hentlage, 12, J Greenwood and M Cowel. 13 D Howells and P Lawrance Tornado: 1 O Schwall and R Schwall (Ger) 2, R Tevingon and J Risodes of D Williams and I Robert S D Willeams and I Rhodes, 5; W Sumucke and R Guttlendige, 7, 7 Robman and II Class

Dennis Conner has taken the chainsaw to his America's Cup candidate, Stars & Stripes, in San Diego, excis-ing the transom to save about 60lb weight. The defender trials resume on March 28.

ROWING

Eton erratic but still the fastest

ETON won the Schools Head for the third year running yesterday, rising to the occasion in a year when a number of opponents had hopes of dethroning them (Mike Rosewell writes). Only six seconds separated the top five schools.

In spite of slightly erratic steering, Eton achieved their winning three-second margin in the second half of the Barnes to Putney course.

Shiplake were initially named as the second-placed crew, but David Porteus, the chief umpire, judged that they had impeded Hampton and a ten-second penalty was imposed, sufficient to drop them to ninth place. Hampton, the pre-race favourites, shared second place with Shrewsbury.

Lady Eleanor Holles won their annual confrontation with Kingston Grammar at girls eight level.

BOXING

Durable Ribalta likely to prove a test for Bruno

BY SRIKUMAR SEN. BOXING CORRESPONDENT

FRANK Bruno's next oppo-nent will be José Ribalta at Wembley Arena on April 22, it was announced yesterday by Bruno's promoter, Mickey Duff. The Cuban-born heavyweight is certainly a more acceptable name than John Emmen, of The Netherlands, who was beaten in one round by Bruno in his first comeback bout last November.

Duff said: "This is a step in the right direction. Ribalta's record speaks for itself. He has been in good company. including Tyson at his peak. The fact that he hasn't fought for a year is nothing these days. After all, Frank didn't fight for nearly three years. If he beats Ribalta well he will prove he is still the Frank Bruno we would like him to

"I would have preferred Francesco Damiani because then we would have had two undefeated European champions, and also because Damiani was the WBO [World Boxing Organisation] champion. But he turned down a \$300,000 offer."

Bruno said: "I hope after this I shall be taken more seriously in America, I was looking forward to Damiani but I have seen Ribalta in action and people should be happy with him as an oppo-nent. All I can do is try to keep

top-ten contenders.

winning and impressing. Getting a world title fight is all about timing and what is available."

Ribalta, aged 28, is a matchmaker's dream, for he has everything in his record of 39 contests, yet is there to be beaten. He is a well-known name, a former contender. and has an outside chance of

hurting Bruno. Ribalta's durability record looks excellent. He has been the distance with Mike Tyson, James "Boneciusher" Smith and Tim Witherspoon, the only three to have beaten Bruno, all by knockout.

At 6ft 5in, Ribalta looks the

part while he is throwing punches. But he is not too steady on his feet, and it is unlikely that he will be able to stand up to the first big clout

Ribalta also took Pierre Coetzer, the world No. 1, all the way and was beaten on a split decision. Therefore, if Bruno should achieve a quick victory, Duff would be able to make a strong case for Bruno to be moved up into the list of

Bruno, who has been train-ing in a builder's yard in Canning Town. east London. moves to a health farm in Leicestershire next week to start training in earnest.

Northern Ireland, the Inter-

national Boxing Federation

champion. However, Pérez

should bring out the best of

Clinton. The Mexican, aged

29, is "a rough, tough

The Mexican's style should

suit Clinton, a counter-

punching type, providing he

has trained to go 24 rounds.

"My father always taught me,

if a fellow can't hit you he

can't beat you," Clinton says.

His boxing earned him the

British title, a Lonsdale belt

and European title in Italy. If

Mexican's technique encourages Clinton

By Srikumar Sen

PAT Clinton sets out to revive the great flyweight tradition of Scotland when he challenges Isidro Pèrez, of Mexico, for the World Boxing Organisation championship in Glasgow tonight.

The last time Scodand held a world flyweight championship was in 1946. The crowd of 50,000 saw Jackie Paterson outpoint Joe Curran at Hampden Park. Even if the Kelvin Hall is no match for the great stadium, the crowd will be no less enthusiastic about Clinton's attempt.

The man Clinton wanted to he can stay on his toes he meet was Dave McAuley, of should outpoint Perez clearly.

RUGBY LEAGUE Marlow earns a spot in the Wales line-up

By KEITH MACKLIN

GERALD Cordie, the Bradford Northern wing, is one of two changes in the Wales team to play France at the Vetch Field, Swansea, on Sunday. He takes the place on the substitutes' bench of Matthew Silva, who is in dispute with Halifax.

The other change brings in the Hull forward, lan Marlow, who qualifies for Wales through parentage. He comes in for Paul Moriarty, who is out for the rest of the season with an injured shoulder. Fitness tests proved successful yesterday for the captain, Jonathan Davies, Kevin Ellis, Adrian Hadley

and David Young. Great Britain Under-21 play the return fixture against France at Albi on Friday. The changes from the side which beat France 56-2 at Halifax bring in Steve McNamara and Gary Connolly for Steve McNamara and Richard Picksley, respectively.

Picksiey, respectivery.

WALES: P Ford (Leeds): J Deversura (Wichest), A Bateman (Warmston), J Davies (Widness, Captan), A Suffrant (St Helens): J Griffiths (St Helens), K Ellia (Warrington), M Jones (Huli), B Williams (Carlesle), D Young (Satiord), R Ackerman (Carlesle), I Marriow (Huli), D Blahop (Huli KR), Substitutes: A Haddey (Satiord), R Phillips (Warmoglon), G Cordle (Bractiord Northern), G Peance (Ryedale-York), Travelling reserves: I Stevens (Huli), Paul Kennett (Swnion)
GREAT BRITAIN UNDER-21 (v Frence Under-27, a) Alta, Friday) D Mycoe (Shelfield Engles), D Myere (Wogan), G Connolly (31 Helens), P Newlove (Featherstone Rovers), M Riley (St Helens), M Pearson (Featherstone), A O'Donnell (Wigan), P Sumner (Warmoton), G Southermood (Casteford), P Bonson (Featherstone), C MacNeurone (Mail) B Cliston (Wogan), M Machames (Huli) B Cliston (Wogan)

IN BRIEF

Olympians formed to set example

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The Olympians, an organis-ation of former British competitors in the Games, has been formed with the Princess Royal as president and Dr Liz Ferris as chairman. It is hoped that by the Atlanta centennial Games of 1996, it will be worldwide.

Educational programmes and special events to encourage young competitors will be among the Olympians' objectives.

Ringside view

Boxing: Billy Schwer, an undefeated lightweight from Luton, has been voted Best Young Boxer of 1991 by the Boxing Writers' Club. Herbie Hide, from Norwich, a heavyweight, was second and Robbie Regan, a flyweight, of Wales, third.

Duncan out

Skiing: Ronald Duncan, the defending men's downhill holder, has been forced out of the British Land national championships in Tignes. France, this week after a

recurrence of a back injury. Gavin Forsyth, from Stockport, was fastest in the first training run.

Rider killed

Equestrianism: Arabella Ralston Saul, aged 17, from Yeovil, died on Saturday after her horse fell on her during the novice section of the Peper Harow horse trials in Surrey. She had competed regularly at hunter trials.

All not lost

Baskethall: Trevor Gordon, the 6ft 10in former Kingston forward, who has been cut by his Belgian club. BAC Damme, remains in the Olympic plans of the Great Britain coach, Kevin Cadle

Thomson again Bowls: Andrew Thomson be-

came the first man to win the British Isles indoor singles championship two years running when he defeated David Gourlay Jr 21-16 at Teignbridge, Newton Abbot. Devon, yesterday. Thomson also won the pairs for the second time with Gary Smith. Gourlay was again on the receiving end, going down 29-11 with Robert McCulloch.

BADMINTON

said yesterday.

Gowers and Sankey strike back

GILLIAN Gowers and Sara Sankey, all-England semi-finalists for the last two years, proved again that they are as good as any pair in the world when they saved two match points to give England an unbeatable lead in the first of two internationals against Korea at Sheffield on Monday (Richard Eaton writes). England beat a team miss-

ing several players who made Korea the Sudirman Cup world team champions 4-1. The all-important third victory came when Gowers and Sankey recovered from 11-14 down in the final game to win 7-15, 15-4, 17-15 against Park Soo-Yun and Bang Soo-Hyun.
The other live match saw

the English national champi-

on, Anders Nielsen, come

from 4-9 down in the first

game and 3-7 down in the

second to beat the world

No. 19. Park Sung-Woo. 17-14, 18-15. The two teams met again at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham last night.

FOOTBALL

Attions Town 3, Cort City 2, Bray Wanderers 0, Galway Utd 2, Droghads Utd 0, Shamrock Rovers 0, Shebbourne 0, Derry City 5, Sigo Rovers 1, Bohamians 2, St. Patrick's Ath 0, Dundalk 2, Leading positions (after 29 matches) 1, Shebbourne, 43; 2, Derry City, 39, 3, Cork City, 38

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Chelses 2, Crystal Palace 1; CPR 7

Arsenal 3, West Ham 0, Fulham 0

ENGLISH SCHOOLS ADIDAS UNDER-19 TROPHY: Regional .aemi-final; Hampshire 1, Cornwell 4. Late results on Monday NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION; Luten 3, Southumpton 4. Milwell 2. Pertumputh 0; Wadard 1, Nervich 0 PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Asion Ville 2. Bolton 0: Bradford 0, Manchester Crly 1. Second division: Letesster 1, Meddlesorrough 2. Manfield 3, Port Vate 0 Wolverhampton 2. York 1 BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier division Chelmsford 0, Crawley Town 0 Southern division. Gosport Borough 0. Sitingbourns 3

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Har-low 2, Tooting and Mitcham 2, Second division: Russip Manor 3, Matropolitan Police 1. HFS LOANS LEAGUE. Pramier division Emily 3. Accession Stanley 1 SCHOOLS MATCH: English British Gas Trophyl: Semi-linal: Leads 1, Reading 0

SHEFFIED: England v Korea international: (English names first) Men's
singles: A Nistism bit Park Sung Woo 1714, 18-15 Men's doubles: Ponting and D
Winght bi Lee Sang Bok and Shan Jin
Hwan, 15-2, 15-5 Women's singles, H
Troke lost to Lee Heurg Soon, 9-12, 11-5
9-12 Women's doubles; G Gowers and S
sankey bit Bang Soo hyun and Park Soo
Yun, 7-15 15-4, 17-15. Mixed doubles: N
Ponting and G Gowers bit Kim Hak Kyun
and Park Jim Hyun 15-7 9-15, 15-12
England bit Korea, 4-1.

BADMINTON

GOLF SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, I Woosnam (GB), 16.55ots average, 2, N Faido (GB), 16.11, 3, J-M Otozabal (Sp), 15.84-4, S Ballesteros (So), 14.96, 5, F Couples (US), 14.65-5, B Leager (GB), 13.89, 7 G Norman (Aus), 11.93, 8, Siewert (US), 11.65-9 F Azinger (US), 10.38, 10, M McNutly (Zm), 948, Other British: 17 R Rafferty 17 17.

and experience.

TEIGNBRIDGE, Newton Abbot: British islas Indoor championship: Finals: Singles: A Thomson (Eng) bt D Gourley, jrv. (Scot). 21-16 Junior: J Greenslade (Wales) bt N Boort (re) 21-16, Pairs: G Smith and A Thomson (Cyphera, Eng) bt D Gourley Jnr and R McCulloch (Prestwick, Scot), 29-11 Triples: A Riobertson, R McGumpsey and G Robertson (East Lothian Scot) bt B Moffstt J Harry and J McClure (Provincial Towns, Ira). 24-8, Fours: A McAladan, E McNally, B McShenn and S Eleman (Belfast Ira) bt D Bright; P Longmur D Hendry and J Bright (Parth, Scot), 24-18

BOWLS

BOXING MEXICO CITY: WBC straw-weight title: Ricardo Lopez (Mex. holder) bt Domingo Domingo Lucas (Fáipmes) pts CYCLING

TIRRENO-ADRIATICO RACE: Seventh stage: Torre San Patrizio to Montegraharo (184 Skm. Italian unleas stated): 1 M Argentin 419: Semin: 2. D Cassent, eame time 3. 3 Colage, 3 seconds behind 4 R Alcala (Mex), 4: 5. R Sorensen (Den), 6 J Schur (Ger) 7. G Petito, 8 F Ballarin, 9 L Jalabert (Fr), 10, 8 Zberg (Switz) all same time. Overall standings: 1 Cassant, 30tr 42 Albrant, 2 Sorensen 2 seconds behind, 3. Albala, 12. 4. F Jaker (Switz) 14. 5. L Statta (Ven), 23 6 Colage, 30 7. A Churato 33: 8. G Perobon 38 equal 9 Zberg and 5 Roche (Ire) 41

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New York Rangers 4 Montreel Caradians 1: Hart-tord Whalers 4 Calgary Flames 3

ROWING

FOR THE RECORD

WOMEN'S EIGHTS HEAD RACE: 1, Tideway Sculiers A (Senior open winners), 15min 46sec; 2, Thames A, 19:54: 3. Thames Tradesmen A, 19:57: 4, Ostros A (Oxford) (University winners), 20:20. School jointor: Kingston Gesmany, 21:21. Novice: Emmanuel Cambridge, 21:38. Vistarare: Themes E, 27:58

SCHOOLS EIGHTS HEAD RACE: 1, Eton A, 12min 48sec; equal 2, Shretes-bury A and Hampton A, 12-52, 4, King's, Canterbury A, 12-53, equal 5, Radley A and SI Edward's A, 12-54; 7, King's, Chester A, 12-56, 8, Pangbourhe A, 13-00, 9, Shqilake A: 13-01 (mol 10sec pen), equal 10, Westmenster A and Kingston GS A, 13-03 Teem: St Edwards' Small School: Royal Balfast Academy, Inst, 13-30, Jumor 18: St Edwards' C, 13-11 Junior 15: Abingdon E, 8-04 (short course) Junior 14: King's Wirmbledon F, 8-49 (sc) Wormen's Junior: Lady Eleanor Holles A, 14-29 Junior 16: Lady Eleanor Holles B, 15-21 SCHOOLS EIGHTS HEAD RACE 1.



Thomson: indoor bowls victory at Teignbridge

TABLE TENNIS

WORLD RANKINGS: 1, J Person (Swe); 2, J-O Waldner (Swe); 3, J-P Gatten (Fr.); 4, C Longcan (China), 5, A Grubba (Pol); 8, K Taek-son (S Kor), 7, C Z hibin (China); 8, J Rosakopf (Ger); 9, J-M Saive (Sel); 10, L Gun-seng (N Kor) Women: 1, D Yaping (China); 2, O Hong (China); 3, L Burn Hai (N Kor), 4, G Jun (China); 5, L Burn Hai (N Kor), 6, C Zihe (China); 7, C Po Wa (HK), 8, G Lausin (Can); 9, C Tan Liu (HK), 10, D Yaping (China);

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BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Al-lante Hawks 89, Detroit Pistons 77; Indiana Pacers 93, Los Angeles Lakers 85; Chicago Bulls 116, Marm Heat 100; Cleveland Cavaliers 111, Washington Bullets 102; Charlotte Hornets 117, San Antonio Spurs 112.

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 RACING 27 FOOTBALL 29

Uefa Cup tie stirs the Merseyside passion

Liverpool need goals galore to sink Genoa

BY CLIVE WHITE

IF LIVERPOOL fail to over-haul Genon in their Uefa Cup quarter-final second leg at Anfield tonight, it will not be for want of vocal support.
The game has captured the imagination as rarely before for a midweek match on Mer-

ians are made of. The finely balanced nature of the tie — Liverpool trail 2-0 from the first leg - together with the continuing novelty of a European match after the club's six-year exile, has been like a rallying call to its

discover exactly what the Ital-

supporters.
They, like the players themselves, do not share the view that Liverpool are about to surrender their unbeaten record in this competition, which they have won twice.

What a difference two weeks can make. Only the most partisan supporter would have given Liverpool any chance of rescuing this tie after Branco's 35-yard free kick screamed past Hooper in the 88th minute of the open-

ing leg.
Since then Barnes, Rush and Whelan have all recov-

BY STUART JONES

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

TOTTENHAM Hotspur

have become so anxious

about their domestic affairs

that Peter Shreeves regards the second leg of the Europe-an Cup Winners' Cup quar-

ter-final against Feyenoord at

White Hart Lane tonight as a

welcome relief. For one night,

at least, he expects the pres-

sure mounting on him and

Yet the occasion represents

a critical point in the club's

troubled season. Should they

fail to recover from a one-goal

deficit, inflicted during a te-

they will be left with nothing

on their horizon but an igno-

minious scramble for survival

Success would alleviate not

only the abuse, which is being

thrown towards Shreeves,

his side to be eased.

in the first division.

QUARTER-FINALS

Liverpool 0, Genoa 2 Ajax (), Gheni () Real Madrel 1, Sigma Olomous 1 Torno 2, BK 1903 Coponhogen (

ered - or partially so - from serious and protracted inju-ries, as has Michael Thomas, although he is ineligible for the game tonight. The flame

of hope still flickers.

Anxious not to put undue pressure on his team, Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager. has made no demands on them for an early goal. "A quick goal would be one at any time in the first half." he

"If we can be kicking into the Kop in the second half only one goal adrift, we'll have a chance. This tie isn't beyond us but we will need some luck — the sort of luck the Italians enjoyed in the

first leg."

Souness is not about to concede defeat in any competition, as anyone who saw him storm out of Selhurst Park on Saturday after the loss to Crystal Palace would tell you. It would be foolhardy of Liverpool to put all their

and Souness knows it.

Unlike Genoa, Liverpool are obliged to make changes because of the welter of "loreigners" in their midst. irobbelaar, the goalkeeper, ill again be stood down in favour of four outfield 'foreigners".

rainty in anyone's selection. and Rush and Saunders, their Welsh attacking duo, a necessity, it leaves just one position to be resolved, probably by either Whelan or

Molby, the Dane.
Sourcess would give no chies, though the word is that he will gamble on the fitness of Whelan, whose appear-ance in the FA Cup quarter-final against Aston Villa ten days ago was his first since

Jack Charlton, the Republic of Ireland manager, always used to say that Whelan's name was the first he wrote down on his team sheet. Souness may be about to do the same.



sign of the terrace times

this may be, but Albury Wo-- where, earlier today, England played their final World Cup group match against Zimbabwe has been treated to the ritoal of the Pommie invasion. al of the Ponumie tuvaston.
Where they all came from
nobody seems sure, but upwards of 5,000 English supporters have gathered in
Australia for the World Cup

and they have not exactly disguised their affinity. The host nations apart, none of the teams can boast the following that England have attracted. if the numbers are huge, however, so too is the diversity.

Visually and vocally, Enand's support is dominated by the terrace type, the all-singing, all-chanting crowd who have turned

The buffs are generally within groups organised by travel companies and crick-et publications. Their courier will invariably be a former player - Godfrey

Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, finds **England's World Cup supporters**

taking a leaf out of the football book

are among those here. Most, but not all buffs, are regular cricket tourists.

They will sit in reserved areas of the ground and stay in distinguished hotels. The terrace types are not so easily classified. Some are expatriates, others. with a pioneering spirit, have made independent trips. On match days they

ire magnetically drawn to-either on the hill. They stay

in backnackers' hostels or cheap guest houses and patronise corner cafes and back-street laundrettes. Sometimes, the two types cross over and this is not rays attractive. I cannot, for example, recommend the sight of middle-aged men wearing light blue England cricket shirts over their paunches and singing "Do-ing the Gladstone Small", the rather personal terrace

variation on "Doing the Lambeth Walk". The uniform of the travelling army is the team shirt, the marketing triumph of the World Cup. For a little under £20, the followers can

was never quite the same in the old days, when cricket teams wore white.

Terrace watching has been a fascination of this World Cup even if some of the behaviour has been familiarly moronic. There has been the odd scrap, a little regrettable bloodshed, and there has almost always been a Mexican wave, espe-cially when provoked by the electronic scoreboard in Sydney flashing its pompthrown in the air disturb and worry fellow specta-

tors." Red rag to the bulls. The singing has not been novel. England's terrace faithful have concentrated on the old standby, "You'll Never Walk Alone", and an import from another World Cup. "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot". "Land of Hope and Glory" has had an airing and, during the defeat of Australia, Paul Keating's ears were doubtless burn-

ing to repeated renditions of the National Anthem. The originality of the ter-races have come from the banners. Prohibited on English grounds, along with flags, drums and more than a reasonable quantity of alcohol, banners are such an integral part of cricket watching in the Antipodes that at each game covered by Channel 9, one is nomiated "Banner of the Day".

Some are unadventurous, simply if perversely pro-claiming an allegiance to a football team. Leeds United are ubiquitous but Oxhey Wanderers and Milford on Sea PC were new to me. Last week in Melbourne,

"Derek Pringle is God" was perliaps a shade less ob-scure than "Dave Shoesmith is Very Small". while a goodly amount of thought had created "Beefy and Lamb and the Top Side will Roast You". I also ei joyed "Arfur Daley is Right, British is Best — Anyone Seen Terry? especially as Dennis Waterman, alias

Minder Terry, was there. The Queen has been in vogue with the banner brains and the demise of the Australian team has been gleefully illustrated. One banner read: "Germany 1990, Russia 1991, Australia 1992 — Disappearing Borders."

One of the biggest and most bullish of the past few days had a smug message. "World Cup Semi-Finals. Aussie-Free Zone." The perpetrator will spend today worrying he may have spoken too soon.

Pringle pays costly

THE subconscious effects of again in this World Cup after sustaining an injury he could have minimised by withdraw-ing from Sunday's match against New Zealand in Wellington. Pringle consulted an ortho-paedic surgeon yesterday for

advice on the extent of damage to his rib cartilage. He was told that time is the only cure; time is one thing Pringle does not have. De-pressed and frustrated, he knows he has little chance of recovering in time for the semi-final at the weekend. What emerged yesterday, however, is that Pringle felt discomfort from the rib area before the Wellington game stances he might have pulled

out but he was acutely aware that the team was already short of fit bowlers, so he said nothing. In his second spell, he felt a stabbing pain beneath the ribs and had to eave the field in mid-over. "I first felt it when I was having a bowl at practice before the game," he said. "I didn't say anything because we had a lot of other injuries. I suppose I could have asked

through the first spell all right before it completely went in the second. "I knew immediately that I had to go off, it was such a sharp pain. I have never had an injury of this sort before, but I am told they take their time to heal. It's very upset-ting because I thought I was doing a reasonable job with

to be spared bowling but I got

the new ball." Sydney: The other remaining teams in the cricket World Cup are ready to con-tinue playing South Africa in the tournament even if yesterday's referendum on political reform in the republic pro-

duces a "no" vote.

Geoff Dakin, president of
the United Cricket Board of
South Africa, said he would withdraw the team if the country voted against the continued dismantling of partheid and any side subsc quently refused to play them. The West Indies Cricket Board of Control president, Clyde Walcott, said his team

play the South Africans if the two teams reached the final. "We have a contract to play in the World Cup and that contract will be upheld." The Australian captain, Al-

lan Border, said it would be "a tragedy" if South Africa pulled out, while Imran Khan, the Pakistan captain, and Micky Stewart, the England manager, also added their support for South Africa's continued presence.

Results and tables, page 28 England A. page 28

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QUARTER-FINALS

Shreeves seeks reprieve

Tottenham Hotspur (), Feyencord 1 Galatasaray 1, Werder Bremen 2 Monaco (), Roma () FC Brugas 2, Atlético Medrid 3

their manager, but also the tension which has gripped his side. In recalling the words of Count Galeazzo Ciano. Shreeves encapsulated the impact of tonight's outcome. "Victory has a hundred fathers," he said. "Defeat is an orphan. I read that somewhere once and it seems particularly appropriate to our through to the semi-final, and we've got every opportunity of doing so, it would certainly

ease matters." With cries for his dismissal growing in intensity on the terraces, he is in need of some

cheer. "It hasn't been the best seven days. I've experienced that before but it has not been directed across my flight path. The players have given

me great support."
So has Terry Venables, the club's chief executive, who refuted speculation that he was becoming more involved Indeed, he insists that he would prefer to have a greater influence than he does. Nevertheless, he offers the manager his sympathy. "There must be something wrong if you don't feel sorry for some-body in his position." Venables said yesterday. "He

great dignity." Considering Tottenham's fortunes over the last nine months, Shreeves can be forgiven for imagining that his

luck must turn soon. He has been without Gascoigne for the season, his side has lost all confidence at home, his pitch has turned into a quagmire, his club has been disciplined by the Football Association and his leading goalscorer, Lineker, suffered through the illness of his son. He can be held responsible for little on that list. Tottenham, who have not won since January 8, will require more than a slice of luck if they are to reach the last four. As if to compound the problems, they will be without their regular full backs, Fenwick and Van den

Hawe, both of whom are automatically suspended. Bergsson and Edinburgh which will probably otherwise be unchanged. Lineker, who missed the last couple of games with a damaged hamstring, is described as "fit and

Feyenoord, as they demonstrated in their own home, are almost impregnable. They have conceded just two goals in their last 17 fixtures and none in the tournament so far. Tottenham's task is difficult but Shreeves recalls that they overturned a similar deficit against Porto, appreciably more talented opposition.

successive cricket grounds into stage sets of the North Bank at Highbury. Slightly less conspicuous, though often identified by their club ties, are the travelling buffs, who devote traditional silence to their cricket watching and doubtless consider their terrace counterpart proceeds and irreservent.

Snow and Jack Simmons

a serious worry over Malcolm

Marshall, their fast bowler,

going into the decisive World

Cup group match against

Australia here earlier today.

The match will decide which

the captain, said yesterday

before the day-night game.

Australia's left-arm pace

bowler, Mike Whitney, who

the semi-finals.

look exactly like an England player and exactly like everyone else around them. It

nament, was receiving treat-

ment on a neck injury but

Marshall's injury worries West Indies

West Indies had consistent players in the tour Border, said. "If Pakistan win matics. We just want to win," duce runs. Sri Lanka

their physiotherapist, Errol Alcott, said he was confident Whitney would play.

A win for West Indies would ensure their passage

team joins New Zealand, through to the semi-finals. England and South Africa in Australia have to win by about 35 runs or make the Marshall has an ankle injury and Richie Richardson, winning runs no later than the 43rd over and rely on that a final decision would New Zealand having beaten Pakistan in Christchurch. not be made until shortly

"One advantage is we will know the result in New Zealand early in our game," the it comes down to us just playing for pride but West Indies still going for a win."

Border said he would probably put West Indies in if he won the toss. "I would think it probably best to bowl first and try and knock them over," he said.

Net run-rate will decide the fourth semi-finalist if both West Indies and Pakistan lose, and Border will almost need a calculator to work out Australia's progress.

Richardson, though, is not concerned with such details.

Both teams practised in cold, gloomy conditions and similar weather was forecast for today.

In Colombo, Sri Lanka's miserable performance at the World Cup was described as being like "village green cricket" by the team manager, Duleep Mendis.

"No excuses, it was a performance by the Lankars that resembled village green cricket," Mendis, a former Test captain, said. He added that the olayers lacked discipline and the courage to pro-

Clubs to have £200m for seats

duce runs. Sri Lanka failed to reach the last four after losing five matches, two of them by massive margins to England and the West Indies in the Dast week.

However, they did beat Zimbabwe and South Africa and shared a point with India after rain washed out their

"If I had played, I could have performed better than some of the batsmen." Mendis added. "I am ashamed of their performance. Some of them should pack their bags and go

Jobs for Christie's workforce

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE British athletics workforce will have to be as good as Linford Christie predicts they will be at the Olympic Games this summer if they are to keep pace with the success of those who make sure they get paid. Recession? What recession? Another big sponsorship deal was announced yesterday.

The end-of-season meeting at Sheffield is to be known as the Lucozade Games for the next four years. This year, on August 14, it will be the first meeting in Britain after the Olympics. Christie, the men's

team captain, expects the workforce to come back laden with medals: "I think it could be Britain's best-ever Olympic Games," he said yester-

The £2 million package also secures Lucozade as the official sport's drink supplier to British athletics. When Dairy Crest withdrew from sponsorship in January, it was the third leading backer in six months to stand down, following McVitie's and ParcelForce. But the recovery is almost complete. TSB came in with £2.5 million over three years and Alan Pascoe Associates, the marketing agency to the British Athletic Federation, said yesterday that it was confident that the Lucozade deal would be followed by sponsorship announcements for the IAAF grand prix meeting at Crystal Palace and the invitation

"The projected income from the televised events in 1992 will be higher than it was in 1991 even without a grand prix sponsor so far." Matthew Wheeler, of APA.

The state of the s

meeting at Gateshead.

THE Government yesterday announced that football would be receiving a further £100 million so that all clubs could have all-seat stadiums by 2000.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has extended the reduction in pools betting duty for a further five years after 1995 to give League and Scottish clubs a total of £200 million over ten years to implement the recommendations of the Taylor Report.

First and second division clubs must be all-seat by BY JOHN GOODBODY

1994-5 and third and fourth divisions by 1999-2000, although many clubs will have to raise huge amounts of ad-

ditional money to convert their grounds. The Football Supporters' Association and the National Federation of Supporters' Clubs have both campaigned for clubs to have some safe terracing because many people prefer standing. Despite the welcome infu-

sion of government money, there is mounting concern that the cash is being spent on renovating old stadiums, many of which are badly sit-

ed, rather than in constructing new grounds. Taylor's wish for more clubs to share grounds has also largely gone

unheeded. The money will still be filtered through the Football Trust, which has already distributed £40 million to clubs. A further £60 million remains 3 from the original five-year pledge by the government. Reductions in the betting tax on football from 42.5 per cent to 40 per cent have made the money available.



The true blue who is fighting the

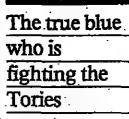


Who controls television when elections come round?

Pring pay cost

villains.

thing rather bloodless about his



LIFE & TIMES

WEDNESDAY MARCH 18 1992

A trivial death on Broadway

Despite its stars, New York's new staging of Death and the Maiden misses the play's pain and passion, reports Benedict Nightingale

h dear, oh dear. Last July, Ariel Dorfman's Death and the Maiden came unostentatiously to life in that shabby attic of the Royal Court roof which calls itself the Theatre Upstairs. The production, by Lindsay Posner, cost all of £12,000 to stage, and was sched-uled to run 31 performances only. After all, how many British people would want to hear a Chilean writer debating the rights and wrongs of revenge, even if the torture-victim seeking it was played by the superb Juliet Sievenson?

Well, last night Death and the Maiden opened on Broadway: the extravagant climax of a journey that has taken it to the Royal Court proper and from there to its esent London habitat, the Duke of York's. The American production cost £750,000 and has already sold tickets worth £2.5 million, a record advance for a straight play. Glenn Close is the stricken protagonist, Gene Hackman the doctor she accuses of having invigilated her sufferings, and Richard Dreyfuss her husband. Oh yes, and the modish Mike Nichols directs the fashionable stars in what is, in my opinion, a pitiful travesty of a fine

Still, even travesties have their uses. Glenn Close sometimes gives the impression she is belatedly thinking of suing a dentist for stinting on the Novocaine during a tooth extraction. Hackman may look rather less menaced by her than the average New Yorker stuck with a nuisance lawsuit. And Dreyfuss may traipse about as welly as an attorney who has lost his way to the courthouse. But they incontrovertibly prove that the Muses are not to be seduced by big

On the contrary, this Death and the Maiden makes an instructive case-study. It shows that sentimen-(a) direction and bland acting can reduce a scathing morality play into the kind of sweetly-sour love drama that flabbily oozes from two or three cable channels every television night.

Let me back up a moment. Dorfman wrote the play after returning from exile to post-Pinochet Chile, where he found his countrymen simultaneously licking their wounds, struggling towards democracy and appeasing a still-powerful army. His charac-ters were to be the nation in microcosm, all of them victims. none of them clear heroes or

We were to be left with more questions than answers. Had Paulina been mentally warped by the violent ordeal that had tormented her for 15 long years? Was Roberto really the sly Mengele who played Schubert and mur-mured sadistically while she writhed? Was her husband Gerardo right to object when a gun-toting Paulina put his houseguest on trial, or was there some-



faith in disinterested justice?
The play made the abstract concrete and the political as burningly human as the latest casehistory unearthed by Amnesty International and, at grand total of £90,000 covered the costs of the six-week run at the Court, from the building of the set to actors' wages of just £210 a week each. It took another £110,000 to transfer the production to the West End, where performers' salaries are higher but there are more seats to be sold. At the Court, tickets ranged from £5 to £15, and the final surplus was £55,000. At the Duke of York's, the best seats cost £18 and, since they are sold out for weeks ahead, a good profit

Compare this with the production at the Brooks Atkinson. No student of Broadway will be surprised by the total price-tag of £750,000, nor by the £60,000-odd that one unchanging set cost. But there has been acerbic comment on a report that Nichols's direction will bring him £19,000 a

Moreover, one producer tells me. that each performer will receive six per cent of the gross takings. Since this should be £185,000 a week, that would mean an £11,000 wage for Close, Drevfuss and Hackman. Still, the public is prepared to pay up to £30 a seat to see them. The same producer, Fred Zollo, expects the play to be in profit in 16

Who can doubt him, either? Broadway thrives on excitement, hype and gossip; and there was more than the usual chatter Square pond as Death and the Maiden neared its opening. Hispanic actors handed out leaflets protesting against so blatantly non-Hispanic a cast. Glenn Close, who had missed several previews through what turned out to be pneumonia, was rumoured to be unhappy with the production. There was what Zollo diplomati-cally called "creative tension" between Dorfman and Nichols, especially after the latter gave an interview saying that the play was "a thriller about the intimate lives of three people and the ways in which their sexual natures are intertwined. I can't", he added. "see this as a political play in any

orfman - must have been appalled. To call Death and the Maiden non-political is like calling King Lear non-tragic. It is as sensible as Peter O'Toole's defence of his unintentionally hilarious Macheth: "really a very funny play". Moreover, it helps explain why the American produc-tion gutters where the English one takes intellectual fire. The argu-

Gerardo about Roberto's fate skirter by so rapidly that I had to check afterwards if they were not cut and am still wondering if the text was trimmed. For Nichols,

sort of inadvertent marriage guidance counsellor: the catalyst who brought hidden conflicts into the open and gave hope to a relationship under stress. No wonder the stakes seem so much lower than in London. There, we are always aware that the issue is what to do with a fascist lackey who may have repeatedly raped a woman after passing electric shocks through her vagina. Here, it is how to cope with the kind of problem caring folk face as often in Ohio or Idaho as in Chile or Argentina. Indeed, Nichols is on record as comparing Paulina's predicament with that of American women in some well-publicised recent cases, for way. And I consider that a plus."

they were clearly interesting only

contained. For him, Roberto was a

Thomas hearings. Prolonged torture equals verbal molestation, or so it seems. This ludicrous reductionism inevitably damages all three performances. Hackman seems properly sickened when he makes what may and may not be a false confession; but he is never in as much terror for his life as Michael Byrne in London. For Bill Paterments between Paulina and son's gritty intensity, Dreyfuss

instance, Anita Hill's in the Judge

substitutes the flummoxed concern of a well-meaning husband whose difficult wife is having one of her bad days. The prospect of personal and professional ruin moves him about as much as if he saucepan and the spaghetti in the washing machine.

But can he be blamed when Ciose is always more sorrowful than traumatised? Her performance is oddly elegiac and lacking in bite. She is ruefully revisiting painful memories, not squirming as they blister her. The horror, bitterness, hysteria, scorching iro-ny and vindictive glee Stevenson finds in the role seem beyond her, as do the darker, more secret emotions on show in London. At one point, Stevenson opens her trussed victim's shirt and runs her hands slowly towards his genitals, a strange sexual fascination on her face. Close simply touches his exposed knees, her back to us, then scampers off behind the scenes.

American actors are conventionally supposed to lack intellectual rigour, but to bring greater emotional energy to their roles than the British. Not here. The atmosphere is so relaxed that the audience at the press preview laughed cheerily at moments when Londoners were wondering how to de-ice their spines. Even a reference to cutting off Hackthe canned merriment we expect

find in television sitcoms. Death and the Maiden needs Esau to direct it, and got an American Jacob instead. The set is very fine. A "beach house"

(Dorfman's word) that in London from a DIY kit has become an imposing villa: all white pillars. But with the roughness has gone the urgency and the danger. A terrible smoothness rules. One has repeatedly to pinch oneself to remember that the subject is torture; and the pinching is more painful than the play.

Finally, I have a message for Juliet Stevenson, whom American

thought enough for a visa to Broadway. You were well out of it. Paulina may be half-mad, but this production would have sent you to the

P.E. Contraction	74:045
Arts	2.3
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HomesLaw Report	12
TV, radio	14

TOMORROW Warren Beatty's turbulent career

Hands off my bank statements, darling

have been much perplexed by an advertisement on television for the Norwich Union. Perhaps you have seen it it is glossy and romantic and underscored with strings, and goes something like this:

When Jamie moved in, of course, he had nothing at all. Just the cello and the winning smile. And he said that under no circumstances was I to buy him socks, or food, or cello strings. But quite honestly I knew (Shot of man and woman in a fashionable shop. Woman smiles inanely and shells out large sum for a winter wardrobe).

"Then one day he said, 'Hey! Let me take you to Paris!' And it was really great. Of course there was a bit of a mix-up in the restaurant on the first evening. (Shot of sweet, curly-haired man with his pockers turned inside out and a large question mark in the air above his head.) What do I know of your pounds and farthings,' he said. 'I am a mere child. But luckily I knew (Woman reaches for hand-

bag, and saves the day.) "And then we were out walking and he said to me, 'Darling why don't we get married? You know that all I have is yours, and it would be quite nice if all you had was mine, too. What do you say?" fully happy in autumnal setting, the woman not suspicious in the least). And I thought, I knew!"

Now, the interesting thing about this ad is that it is not a parody or a joke. And anyone who thinks so must therefore be a tired old cynic, with no romance in her soul. Which makes me feel very ashamed, of course, because I always watch it waiting to cheer and whoop at the moment when the woman finally chops him smartly across the back of the neck and steps over his prone groaning body, saying to herself "I bloody knew". I can't see the romance in this set-up; it smacks too obviously of a Hitchcock plot. "Are you blind? I yell at the doting fool with the chequebook. "Don't you see he only loves you for your Norwich Union investments?

The trouble with being returned to the single state. I find, is that it triggers all this deep suspicion of romance. So perhaps the Norwich Union ad simply took a blunt hack-saw to a raw nerve. But where does the cynicism come from in the first place? Looking at this scenario, one is presumably supposed to see this couple destined for a Disney Technicolor happy-ever-after, complete with big-eyed chipmunks and a pointy SINGLE LIFE

Lynne Truss finds even Disney cannot cure her cynicism



yellow castle. You are supposed to turn off the TV afterwards and sing "Some day my prince will come", while studying your reflection in a wishing well.

I don't, of course. I gave up singing into wishing wells on the day I realised how easy it would be for someone to come up behind me and push me in. But, being a up operation. "Let's clean this little bit literal-minded, I thought that house," she trills, "and perhaps its

recapture a bit of the lost innocence; and that a trip to a kiddies's matinee might prove an invaluable cathartic experience. Thus it was that, last Saturday afternoon. I queued up rather conspicuously with some toddlers sniffing an onion and trying to get weepy at the idea of a prince in mauve

Dwarfs on re-release. I might try to

The trip was a mixed success. I found that I didn't yearn for the prince very much; but I didn't feel very bitter either. On the other hand, my cynicism found scope in other quite unexpected directions. Just look at the way Snow White worms herself into the affections of those naïve dwarfs! "You are blind, dwarfs, blind!" I wanted to yell. (It was the ne'er-do-well cello player all over again.) "She's taking your beds! She's making ples from your gooseberries! Are you telling me she doesn't know you are in the diamond business? And that you dig, dig, dig, etcetera

I think I am on to something, actually. I mean, look at the way she gets all the fluffy trusting woodland animals to do the dirty work in the "Chez Dwarf" cleanwith Snow White and the Seven. little owners will let me stay." So

from early morn till night?"

she proceeds to chirrup gaily and lean lightly on a broom, while the bluebirds and bunny rabbits dash about with crockery, and cheerfully tackle the laundry. And what do they get out of it, precisely? While everyone is busy. Snow White somehow rustles up a nice dinner for the dwarfs, by stewing an unspecified something-or-other in a large pot. The little animals continue to dust and polish, never once sniffing the air and saying Smells good. Hey, where did

Arnie go? Anyone here seen Arnie? My trip didn't really solve my anxiety over the Norwich Union advert. I still watch it aghast, imagining the harrowing unscreened scenes - the man riffling thoughtfully through his girlfriend's bank statements while she is out at work; the hand-holding trip to the solicitor to make wills in one another's favour. Snow White's bunnies cluster at my feet. with their little paws over their eyes, and we shake our heads in unison, as the man finally places a' bar of soap on the top stair, and then pops down to the shed to put

TOMORROW Private life: John Diamond

topped coffin.

the finishing touches on a glass-

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grafia . * Sept. 1 表表 "什"

BOURNEMOUTH SINFONIETTA: programming brings the world premiere of the chamber orchestra version of Sir Hamson Birtwette's nen Arcadise Mechanica Carmen accesse Mechanical
Perpetutin (1977) — "sh musical
mechanisms judaposed many times
without any term of transition" — as
well as pleces by Boccherin (Strag
Quintet Op 30 No 6, evacathrely
missition 1988). comer Up 30 No 6, evacatively subtified "hight Music in the Streets of Machis". Haydin (Symphony No 104) and, with Dmitri Alexeev, Beethoven (First Pieno Concerto). Alexandre Myral conducts: The same

Kingland Road, Poole (0202 685222). 7 30pm ORFEO: Powerful performance from English National Opers in a revival of David Freeman's admired production of the Monitoverdi opera, complements by Hayden Griffin's rich designs. Anthony Rotte Johnson returns in the title role, with Marie Angel as Eurydice and Sally Burgass as the Messenger. Herry Bicket conducts. Colliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), 7.30pm.

Myral conducts. The same program is repealed at the Wyvern Theelre.

Swindon, tomorrow Nessex Hall, Poole Arts Centre,

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: Purists may blanch at the thought of the SCO, with its nonbaroque instruments, daring to tackle Handel's great cratorio Saul, however a stylish and fresh performance can be expected. Nicholas Kraemer conducts, and Lynne Dawson, Michael Chance, Rufus Muller, Michael George, Jonathae Samt end the SCO Charus of sing. The same programme is repeated at Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. City Half, Candleriggs, Glasgow (041-227 5511), 7,30pm.

M ANGELS IN AMERICA. Strong performances in Tony Kushner's longish but vigorous drema: Aids, religion, politics, everything. National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-926 2252) Tonight, Iomonow, 7.30pm 210mins

III ANNA KARENINA: Rain and amagination in Shared Experience's rewarding version of Totstoy's novel, Tricycle, Kibburn High Road, NWS (071-328 1000). Mon-Set. Spm, mat Set.

III THE COTTON CLUB: AN II THE GRACKWALKER: UNMI tavisgery in Ontario, violence, abuse, grief: strong atuff, served straight. Gate, Prince Albert Pub, Pembridge Road, W1 (071-229 0705). Men-Sat, 7.30pm 150mine,

DANCING AT LUGHNABA: Sinen Friel's Olivier Award-whining memory-play, set in Thrities Donegal Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494-5085) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mate Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 150mins. Final

DEATH AND THE WAIDEN: AND Stevenson, Michael Byrne, Bill Paterson supert in Arial Dorfman's Chilean political drama. Best play of 1991. Duke of York's, St Martin's Lare, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, main Thurs, 3pm, 6st, 4pm, 122mins.

AN EVENING WITH GARY KER: Sometimes droll look at the size of a woman married to a Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5075). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, 8st, 6pm and 8.45pm. 130mins.

THE FROM A JACK TO A KING: Witty and stylish version of Mecbeth's climb and stylish version of Macbeth's c to the top, set in the world of rock bends and packed with Sottes sange. Boulevard, Walker's Court, off Peter Street, W (071-437 2691 after 2pm). Mon-Sat, 8.15pm, Fri late show, 10.30pm, mei Set, 8pm, 90mms.

GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE: Battaryag musical calebrating Fittles and Staties pop classics. Great stuff. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue (071-539 4401). Mon-Thura, Bom, Fri, Sat, 5-30pm and 8-30pm, 135mins.

NEW RELEASES

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES AT THE WHISTLE STOP CATE (12) Heard warming fives of testly folias down South Shallow, but ingratisting, With Kathy Batan, Jeselca Tendy, Hery Shann Mesterson; director, Jon Avnet. Odeon Haymarket (0428 918383).

HEAR MY SONG (15) Promoter seeks wanted in Britain for las evasion. Shaggy dog tale with modest pleasures. Ned Beatly, Adrien Dunber; Carector, Press Actions on MCM MCM Chelses (071-382 5095) MGM Maymarket (071-489 1527) MCM Trickaders (071-489 0031) Odeon Kensington (0426 914665) Odeon Marbie Arch (0426 914501) Whiteleys (071-192 3352)

LIGHT SLEEPER (15) Luguisrious elegy to the Eightles drug scene from writer-director Paul Schrader, parity baved by Willem Datice as a loner slumbling towards redemption. With Ellum Senuncum. Curzon West End (071-439 4806)

CURRENT BARTON FINK (15): The Coen hosteas' marvellous macebre comedy orothers marvenous mecapini compay about a New York playwright oil at see in 1940s Hollywood Starring John Turtumo, John Goodman. A triple

 BLACK ROSE (15) Secretary
 century Jesut (Lottoura Blutasu) it
 convert Indians at northern Quebe
 Intelligent epic from Brian Moore's
 novel. Director Bruce Berestor
 MGM Trocadero (071-434-0031)
 Cledon Kennischor (473-914698) Odeon Kensington (3426 914666) Please (071-407 9999)

◆ CAPE FEAR (18) Deroiccic ex-con Robert De Nivo Ierronses Nick Noite and

TODAY'S EVENTS

Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116), 7pm.

LIKE NOTHING ELSE IN TENNESSEE: Many soulptors and painters today, from Conceptual to Post-Modern, somehow incorporate or refer to architecture in their work. The relationship may be tanciful or documentary, but the use of architectural motifs or the making of architecture in miniature gives rise to lively as well as deadly art. The present show (title home a poem by Walaces Stavens) leaves out now established.

Stevene) leaves out now established figures like the Poiriers, Charles Simonds and Ben Johnson, and instead introduces a variety of younger artists wirtusity unknown in Britain, along with our own Julian Ople and Dan Graham.

Serpentine Gallery, Kensington ... Gardens, London W2 (071-402-6075). Daily, 10am-6pm, until April 25.

ALEXANDER CALDER: The man who

thought up the mobile could be accursed of many things, including culpable insubstantiality, but tack of invention would hardly be one of them. To go to a Calder exhibition is to enter

willy-nilly, into his own happy world of bright primary colours and faritering strapes ever on the move. For him lite

is a circus, often literally: In earlier year he made many drawings and wire sculptures on circus themes. Even his him "stabilier" was full of movement.

frazen it seems just for the moment Royal Academy of Arts. Piccadily, London W1 (071-438 7438). Daily, 10

ANGELA DOCHIPTINTI: A BROWN OF paintings and engravings comp the Peruguian-born artist betwe

the Parugulan-born artist between 1988-1991. Spezio Club, Accedenia Italiana, 24 Rutland Gate, London SW7 (071-225 3474). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, until

II SOPHISTICATED LADIES: Twelve singer-dancers whist strough the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot diaguase the true rushii Duke. Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-484 5065), Mon-Fri, Bpm, Sal, 8 30pm, mals Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mers.

☐ A SWELL PARTY: Four singers, two plantsts in likeable tribute to Cole Porter's wit and wry melodies. Vsudeville The Strand, WC2 (071-836 987). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mate Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm, 140mins.

TALIONG HEADS: Petricia Routledge and Alan Bernett excellent three of his monologues charting the unconscious humour and pain of

decotate lives. Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-967 1045). Mon-Sat, Spm, mets Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 150mins.

DIA TRIBUTE TO THE BILLIES BROTHERS: Lively parada of tuneful cidles. Good tun. Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-967 1119). Mon-Thurs, 6, 15pm, Fri, Set, 8,15pm and 9pm. 120mins.

MIND IN THE WILLOWS: Fire and or the hit

m who in his witters rain performences this season of the hit version by Alan Bernett. National (Othier), South Benis, SE1 (071-928 2252). Toright-Set, 7.15pm, mail temorrow, Set, 2pm, 208mins.

ingl terriorrow, Set, 2pm, 208mins.

LONG RUNNIERS: II Americs of Love: Prince of Wates (071-839 8972). II Blood Brothers: Proents, (071-867 1044). II Blood Brothers: Proents, (071-867 1044). II Blood Brothers: Proents, (071-867 1071-87 1

Generation: Ambassations (071-836 6111) . . . Z. The Women in Black Ferture (071-836 2236).

LIKE NOTHING ELSE IN

A daily guide to arts and Karl Knight

City OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. This week's instalment in the "Towards the Millennium" testival consists of Debussy's Jeur, the "poème danse" choreographed by Nijinsky and composed in 1912-13, Eigar's symphonic study Faletaff (1913) and Stravinsky's bellet The Rite of Spring (1911-13). Simon Pattle conducts. The concert is repeated at St David's Hell, Cardiff, tomorrow. Symphony Hell, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212-3333), 7-30pm. CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY

LONDON CITY BALLET: The company's apring tour comes to company's apring tour comes to Crawley with two programmes: the first offers the full-length ballet Romeo and Juliet, and the second, a tropic bill comprising Samsova's staging of the Laurencia pas de six, the Greeke pas de deux, and Peter Dames's Othelia. Hawth Theatre, Hawth Avenue, Crawley (0293 553636), 1.30pm and 7.30pm.

TOM PETTY AND THE HEARTENEAKERS: Last seen in this country supporting Bob Dylan in 1987, the hard-hitting American rockers deservedly tale centre stage this time round. First of two performances in Dublin. The Point, Dublin (010 3531 363 633), 6.30pm,

TTRAIGHT AND NARROW: THOUSENT AND MARHOW:
Television personalities Nicholas
Lyndhurst and Carmel McSharry play
son and doing mum in a new family
comedy by Jimmia Chinn which opens
tonight.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current London theatre House full, returns only
Some seats available Seats at all prices

D A HARD HEART: Architect Anne Massey destroys what she claims to love in Barker's complex, arid pley. Almelda, Almelda Street, M1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, Bpm, mat Sat, 4pm. 95mine.

MAXING IT BETTER: James Saunders' subtle play concerned with ideals, reality and liberation in Prague and London, Jane Asher in an exemples cast of four. Hampstead, Swiss Collage Contre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Set, 8pm, met Bal. 4cm, 120mins.

II MEASURE FOR MEASURE LI MEASURE FOW MEASURE: Trever Num's engressing production: David Heig fatally tempted by Claire Sidmer in Fraud's Visnna. Young Vis, The Cut, SE1 (071-820 0411/926 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mata Thurs, Sat, 2pm. 210mins.

I PHANTOM OF THE OPIDIA Gleefut version of the old thriller, tunes by Offenbach, Verdi and Weber but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury. Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Fd, 7-30pm, Set, 8-30pm, mets Thure, 3pm, 8et, 5pm. 150mins.

I THE POCKET DREAMS FOR MAN buriesque of A Midsummer Night's Dream, with Mills McShane and Sendi Toksvig, Dedicated Jans only. Albery, SI Mertin's Lune, WC2 (171-887 1115). Tues-Sat, 7.45pm, mate Sat, Sun, 3pm, 138mins.

I PYGMIES IN THE RUINS Li Produies in The Number Uncomfortable play by Ron Hutchines barring the smobiles of a Bellant selle heurised by his city's past. Royal Court, Sloane Square, 8W1 (071-730 1745/2554). Mon-Set, Sprri, met Set, 4pm. 145mins. Final week.

THE SEA: Judi Dench spierolid as the village grande-dame in Edward Bend's cornedy of rage and medness. National (Lyttekton), South Benk, SE1 (071-928-2252). Tomght, tomorrow. 7.30pm, mat temorrow, 2.18pm.

FATHER OF THE BRIDE (PG):

Daughter's impending wedding drives Steve Martin crazy. Disappointing remake of the 1950 classic; for

audiences who want to be specified With Daine Keaton, director, Charles

MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) MGM

Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Odeons Kensington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915674) Whiteleys (071-792 3332)

JFK (15) Oliver Stone's contentious, electrifying, three-hour drams about the Kennedy

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theetre CINEMA GUIDE crusioni U.A. em Garrent; a busining supporting out. MCM Futhern Flood (U71-570 2005) MCM Stratesbury Avenue (U71-536 6279/S78 7025) MGM Trocadero (U71-434 0031) Odeon Mezzanine (0428 915683) Pisza (U71-497 9993) Sereen on Baker Street (U71-497 9993) Sereen Whiteleys (U71-792 3932). Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol •) on release across the country

♦ THE LAST BOY SCOUT (18):
Bruce Willia as a world-weary delegative embroised in L.A. corruption. Crowd-pleasing action movie, pilea with bullets and jokes. With Damon Weysras, director, Tony Scott.
MGM Fulharn Road (071-370 2836)
MGM Haymerket (071-836 1327) MGM
Trocadero (071-434 0331) Withsleys.
(071-782 3332). Willer, With Common Street (UT) - 530 9891) Carndon Participa (UT) - 530 9891) Carndon Participa (UT) - 267 7034) Empire (UT) -497 9555) MGM Baker Street (071-253 9772) MGM Fullmen Road (071-370 2538) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0051) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Whiteleys (071-752 3332). DEATH IN BRUNSWICK (15): Sem

Neil as an ageing mother's boy sucked into love, violence and secidental Into Invo, violence and accidental munder. Tasty black comedy from new Australian director John Rusna. MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-836 6148) MGM Chalesa (071-352 6096) Metro (071-437 0787). ONCE UPON A CRIME (PG). Vacuous camedy about Americans in Monte Cario tumbing over a dechahund and a dead body. Starring John Candy, James Belushi, Sean Young, Righard Lawts, Cybril Shepherd; director, THE DOUBLE LIFE OF VERONIQUE Eugene Levy Odeon West End (0426 915574).

THE PRINCE OF TIDES (15): New York psychiatrist helps tootbell cosoli face family secrets. Romentic drama with ideas above its station, grandly scied by Nock Notice Barbra Strelsend directs and co-alars, but fails to ang. Christon Turkway (071-327 7034) MGM Bakur Street (071-325 9772) MGM Chelsas (071-325 905) Noting Hill Connet (071-727 9705) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914886) Lelcester Square (0426 915882)

RAISE THE RED LANTERN (PG): Zhang Yerrou's austern, quelty dazzal drama of a concubine's struggles in Twenties China. With Gong Li. Chasea (071-25) 3742/3743) Metro (071-437 0757) Renoir (071-837 8402).

THEATRE

Many a slip twixt page and stage

THE idea must have seemed a winner. Take a novel about a girl's experience of life at the Liverpool Playhouse in 1950, and turn it into a play for the same theatre. As a dincher, since the book's author, Beryl Bainbridge, has a daughter on the stage, cast the daughter, Rudi Davies, as the girl.

Yet the idea should have been resisted, or else the adaptation entrusted to someone who could bear to be ruthless with treasured dialogue and re-imagine the story in theatrical form. Bainbridge's dramatisation of her novel does not hold the stage.

The novel is a most subtle account of emotional numbness, where the nature of Stella's troubled infancy emerges in fragments, disclosed to different people, and the relevation of her parentage connects odd details placed earlier with the cunning of a vintage crime writer. The pain at the book's heart feels the stronger for the dry tone of the writing, this dryness being one of the book's successes. For while Stella is a sharp-eyed, unsenti-mental teenager, she is still naïve. Her creator knows more than she does,

and this gives the tragedy its comedy. Stella has not yet broken the codes of adult life, so that when the monocled director she adores is driven to confess that he is not for her, she supposes he means his age or religion. It is in a ludicrous attempt to spur this man's jealousy that she loses her virginity to P.L. O'Hara, the

COMPARED with what was happening last year, the Rossini bicente-nary celebrations look desultory. But they had a good jolt forwards on Sunday when the Chelsea Opera Group revived Le Siège de Corinthe, the first of Rossini's operas with a French libretto, and a piece of spaciousness and rousing momen-tum that was powerfully delivered under Howard Williams.

Like the two next Paris operas, The Siege of Corinth was an adaptation by Rossini of one of his Italian pieces. Maometto II, with not much changed in the action except to heighten the heroism of the Greeks as they went under the Ottoman yoke: now that Greece was fighting to reverse the process, there was obviously good But really this story of self-sacrifice

reason to pump up the patriotism. in a doomed city could be taking place almost anywhere at any time, for there is not much local colour. "Divin prophète", the chorus sung in the camp of the invaders, is a suave slow triple-time plece with prominent celios and harps, suggesting little knowledge of Islamic chant and indifference to the exotic. Rossini's energies go wholly into the abstracted dramatic situation, as into a mathematical formula: the girl who chooses

An Awfully Big Adventure Liverpool Playhouse

glamorous actor engaged to play Captain Hook.

These rites of passage are interwoven with accident-strewn productions of Dangerous Corner and Peter Pan. for which she works (as Bainbridge did) as unpaid trainee assistant stage manager. But where the book camouflages crucial items amid the welter of theatrical chat or prosaic homelife, the stage version isolates and exposes them. Subtlety goes, like the Darling children, bang out of the window.

Compression of scenes brings another trouble. Except for two visits to Unde Vernon's basement, the action is set in an all-purpose room at the theatre and on its revolving stage. So Stella's seduction occurs in one of the Darling nursery beds - which may be psychologically true but is logistically insane.

Davies, in her ill-fitting dungarees,

manages some of the girl's gaucheness, and Tim Woodward O'Hara's charm, although we should have been given at least a glimpse of him wearing Hook's treacly ringlets. Ian Kellgren's direction is slack and Bainbridge, said to have been initially reluctant to adapt her book, should have trusted her instincts. I am sure Stella would.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Struggling towards adulthood: Rudi Davies as the gauche Stella

Heroic Rossini

Le Siège de Corinthe Queen Elizabeth Hall

La Patrie rather than the Mohammedan prince she loves, the young officer who rarely stops singing about the glory of Greece (getting the girl in this opera is an incidental), the priest and governor who keep the populace sighted on magnificent death.

This is very much a male opera,

especially in the revised version, where the young hero is sung by a tenor rather than a mezzo. Happily, Justin Lavender was on hand to take this taxing role, and to rise in the third act to an astonishing feat of stamina and control in his long solo. In lines of cultured, nuanced tone, thrillingly lit by beautifully placed interjections of head voice for the pinnacles, he produced a fine display of Rossini style: the kind of breathstopping occasion when a singer_ knows he has caught the moment,

that he has the ball and can run with Geoffrey Shovelton, as the father of

his city, aptly and gravely pronounced as a different sort of tenor, more burdened by life but rising to an excellent declamatory prowess. Neil Howlett as the sultan Mahomet sang surely after initial problems, but the part is grey: the Greeks have all the vocai splendours.

Eileen Hulse brought an appealing lightness and dexterity to all the twiddles of the heroine's part, but the voice is not large and rarely seemed to be moving with the necessary pride and conviction. Louise Crane as her confidente was singing with superb creamy authority; one wished she was there to do much more than take a line in the ensembles. Also enlivening was the buoyant, forthright singing of the chorus, and the pleasure-filled playing of the orchestra. Le Slège de Corinthe has a lot of its strengths in the accompaniment in the solemn

prelude to the last act, with oboe solo, for instance. All these were grandly & done.

Borrol plots bloom

What remains uncertain is how one should take it. The wheeling cycles of ostinato, the great crescendos and the hiccoughings of characters who keep appearing all evoke the big finales of Rossini's comedies. But did they smile at the Paris Opera in 1826 as defiance was thrust at the Turks and Corinth went down in flames?

The neamess of comedy and solemnity, as close as two rival wavs of interpreting an optical illusion, was also suggested last weekend by Vocem's performance of Judith Welr's Scipio's Dream in the Purcell Room, for the piece is a revamping of a pretty little early Mozart masque into a sit-com episode. It was written for television but it worked a trifle better on stage, partly thanks to the comic simplicity of Gwion Thomas in the title role. Another excellent performer. Max Burrows, stood out as Puck in Vic Hoyland's In Pursuit of a Dream. which disappointingly turned out to be little more than a performance of the play without the rude mechanicals. Solemnity here without much comedy.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

Double dose of noise without heat

Red Hot Chili Peppers **Brixton Academy**

A BAND whose talent for oafish, selfpromotional stunts has long been more readily apparent than its musical achievements, the Los Angeles Red Hot Chili Peppers were nevertheless key players in forging the unholy alliance between funk, rap and heavy metal which is rapidly becoming a staple variant of rock in the Nineties. The group's George Clinton-pro-duced 1985 debut, Freaky Styley, may have been a confused mixture of malformed ideas, but its influence on later acts such as Living Colour and

Faith No More has been undeniable. Having weathered a succession of personnel changes, not to mention the squalid death of guitarist Hillel Slovak in 1988, the Peppers finally made their definitive recorded state ment last year. Blood Sugar Sex Magik was an album of surpassing invention and wit. A shame, then, that they were

unable to marshal the same degree of excitement and sense of purpose on stage, notwithstanding the muscular bravado and high level of energy in their performance. There was some mildly delinquent behaviour - one brief genital exposure by the troll-like

bassist. Flea, and a steady incidence of "muthafusticating"-style lyrics - and one could imagine how they had managed to get themselves thrown off Top Of The Pops only the day before.

But although the four bare-chested, heavily tattooed musicians churned My Kiss" and "Give It Away" with faithful attention to detail, the show as a whole lacked focus and any real bite. The weak link was vocalist Anthony Kiedis, whose limited powers of projection were compounded by his inability to carry a tune. This did not matter when he was rapping or doing handstands, but the ballad " Could Have Lied" suffered badly, and exposed a lack of genuine personality beyond the generic spoilt brat image. The current single, "Under The Bridge", with its untypically delicate melody and rousing harmony chorus,

was not attempted. The most noticeable feature of the performance was that the Peppers only ignited on the two occasions that they tackled other people's material, namely Stevie Wonder's "Higher Ground" and Jimi Hendrix's "Crosstown Traffic". In a live context the group's own songs simply did not cut through with anything like the same degree of vitality.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Town & Country

AUDIENCES at rock shows are not on the same wavelength as they used to be. Either they are looking for an outlandish spectacle capable of stimulating the most laded palate or else it seems they just want to immerse themselves in communal, hypnotic gloom. Swans cater for the latter category.

Convened in New York a decade ago, the group began as hardcore/industrial noise terrorists, but by the late Eighties had evolved into a sub-Gothic band, producing eerie mood music tinged with raga-flavoured touches of psychedelia. Led as ever by the sage-like figure of

Michael Gira, a kind of Iggy Pop on Mogadon, the band which boarded the stage at the Town & Country looked like a refuge for retired guitarists from Jefferson Airplane. After a lengthy one-chord preamble - everyone strumming furiously over a pseudo-military snare tanoo - the keyboard player Jarboe, dressed in hippie couture, sang her way gingerly through a verse or so, before giving way to the swelling current of noise.

Gira took the microphone himself during the second number, "Power

above a galloping tom tom motif and a bass guitar riff so thunderous that it threatened to inflict structural damage on the venue. These long, mordant, repetitive

and Sacrifice", producing a sepul-

chral drawl which meandered fitfully-

routines exercised a strange fascination while generating, it must be said, no small amount of boredom. Like Beckett's plays or Sartre's prose, the effect was redolent in certain respects of watching paint dry.

Which is not to deny the artistic merits of either the music or the band's unusual technique. The drummer Vinny Signorelli played with outstanding clan, often providing the only source of dynamic variation as the guitarists lovingly burnished their cyclical four-bar sequences to perfection. Whatever they were getting paid, Vinny should have got double. The audience responded with little

discernible enthusiasm. Certainly there were one or two faster, stringstrafing numbers towards the end, but more typical was Gira's vaudevillian rendition of "Failure", a song so utterly moribund as to enter the realms of parody, if not outright comedy: "I'm the fuel that fires the engines of failure" he deadpanned to a sea of blank faces.

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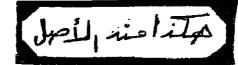
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ARTS 3

Borrowed plots are blooming

his week, novels by Mary Wesley topped the hardbestseller lists (A Dubious Legacy and The Camomile Lawn, respectively), just after the first part of Channel 4's dramatisation of The Camomile Lawn reached the second-highest ratings ever for a single episode of a drama. Last Sunday saw the last of Granada's Maigret stories starring Michael Gambon. Their screening caused six out-ofprint novels by Georges Simenon to be republished with Gambon on the jackets. And on Monday on Channel 4 the series touted as a successorto Twin Peaks began: Northern Exposure. The book of Alaskan whimsy written from the series, Letters From Cicely, was bought by the publisher Mandarin last November for £45,000 on the basis of a

A At Sa

Such is the power of television to sell books. But who influences which books reach the screen? Do publishers put pressure on producers? Or do the two industries feed off each other? Can television also gain from publishing? One television producer has commented that the relationship is a one-way street, that the advantage of dramatising books is all to the publisher, in terms of increased sales. Another believes that dramatisations are problematic in ways that straight screenplays are not, partly because everyone wants an adaptation to reproduce their own mental image of the book.

A third, however, says the profit is mutual. Books are great raw materials because so much of the creative spade work is already done, and their established success adds marketability to drama projects. He works hard to ensure that transmission dates coincide with publication dates, but that is often impossible to guarantee: "on the whole television stations don't care about pleasing

Publishers, on the other hand. move with uncharacteristic speed to put "tie-in" covers on books adapted for television. These sell in boosted numbers not only because of the screen publicity, but also because the prospect encourages booksellers to stock them. One publisher, Headline, recently got wind on a Monday of stories on which a ten-part Yorkshire Television series, to be networked from April, is based. The books were bought on the Wednes-

heat

With similar endomisso, the publisher Transworld has spent 443,000 per book on papenback-rights in three R.D. Wingfield novels featuring Inspector Frost Brost is to be played on television by David Jason, star of The Darling Buds of May, which was watched by 20 million people. Transworld should perhaps be warned, however. Although The Darling Buds prompted the sales of five H.E. Bates novels (which were until then "slow but steady") to rise to a total of 120,000 copies, the two million viewers of Twin Peaks, by contrast, bought 200,000 copies of the spin-off The Secret Diary of Laura Palmer. In other words, Twin Peaks afficionados are 20 times as likely as Darling Buds fans to buy books. For some viewers, all the literature they know is what they see on the box.

Nor is a television tie-in always a safe bet. In 1987 Penguin printed 80,000 copies of a novelisation from the series The Bretts. 60,000 copies came back unsold from the bookshops. Nevertheless, such failmes are more.

So are the publishers all lobbying for dramatisations? Hardly ever. One exception is a Penguin employ-ee who is responsible for television and film tie-ins. Sue Berger regularly sends a fat mailing of likely books on the Penguin list to 400 producers on both sides of the Atlantic, an initiative unique among publishers. The producers are glad to make use of the service: "They will come to me and ask if I have, say, 'a female European detective'," says Berger. Impetus more often comes from

generally handle screen rights for authors. Stephen Bourne, for instance, at the agency Curtis Brown
— whose clients include David Lodge, who wrote his own screen-play for Nice Work, and Nicolas Freeling, author of the Van der Valk books — will "actively pitch" produc-ers with books he thinks are suitable either because of intrinsic quality or because they are by a very famous writer". Even ostensibly unsuitable novels can make it on to the screen if there is the seiling point of a big

agents, since they are the ones who

This is one reason why books are such popular material for producers. Independent companies can sell an



Published novels provide the basis for more and more television: Nicolette Jones looks at the cosy world of adaptations

David Jason in H.E. Bates's The Darling Buds of May, as produced by Richard Bates

show, or the added kndos of proven popularity. Besides, as one producer put it, when you adapt a book "a lot of the imaginative work has been

However, the choice of books is most often dictated by producers' own random enthusiams. The Camomile Lawn, for instance, was made because Sophie Balhetchet of the independent company Zed Ltd has nursed a passion for the book. "We producers just go into bookshops and buy books like anyone else," says Balhetchet.

roduction companies often buy "character rights" rather than particular books -especially since, as happened with Colin Dexter's Inspector Morse, the adventures can take off beyond the books. Some seek out a character for a particular actor. Excelsion Productions, for instance, before they found Inspector Frost for Booker-shortlisted novel Utz was

On occasion, it is an actor's conviction that wins the day. That happened with an earlier Mary Wesley, Jumping The Queue, which Sheila Hancock fell in love with, and with Anim Brookner's Hotel du Lac, in which Anna Massey wanted to play the lead. In the case of The Darling Buds of May there was a family connection. Television producer Richard Bates, of Excelsior, is the son of the author, H.E. Bates, With happy circularity, money from screen rights and royalties from increased sales of H.E. Bates's books, boosted by the television, now go back to the Bates family company, Evansford, making Rich-ard and alblings beneficiaries.

Although the proportion of books that are televised is low, the proportion of television drama that originates from books is high. Take the

premiered. On Monday night there was the first episode of BBC 2's three-part adaptation of the Booker Prize-winning The Old Devils, whose author, Kingsley Amis, is enjoying a screen renaissance we have recently seen his The Green Man, Ending Up and Stanley and the Women. And last night ITV screened the latest episode of a

On Friday comes the fourth part of Fay Weldon's Growing Rich. That was written simultaneously as a book and a television serial, as was Andrea Newman's A Sense of Guilt and John Mortimer's Paradise Postponed. Summer's Lease was adapted by Mortimer after the novel

sittom based on Simon Nye's novel

Men Behaving Badly.

was written, as were Melvyn Bragg's A Time to Dance and Malcolm Bradbury's adaptations of his own novels. In the case of Rumpole of the produced by Friday. The purchase- easily if there is an existing story to and read a vast pile of criminalia film of the late Bruce Chatwin's Saturday) Mortimer writes up his and watch a whole library.

Lately delivered

ARTS BRIEF

A BATCH of fine art that should have been delivered to Poland in 1795 is finally arriving there this May for a short visit. Not, for once, a tale of art plunder shamefacedly returned after 200 years. This time the paintings, which include Poussin's Triumph of David, Rembrandt's Young Man and Watteau's Les Plaisirs du Bal, are going to Warsaw as part of a cultural exchange. They were bought in London on behalf of King Stanislaw II in the early 1790s, but before they could be delivered (or paid for) Stanislaw had been ousted

and Poland partitioned. They remained in England and were bequeathed to Dulwich College; Dulwich Picture Gallery was built primarily to house them. Thirty of them are being shown in Warsaw; in return, a Polish exhibition, Treasures of a Polish King", Thustrating Stanislaw's p tronage at home, will open in Dulwich on May 13.

Well booked up

THE latest Dickens epic to reach the stage is *Martin Chuzzlewit*. Lynn Robertson Hay's new adaptation will be performed at the Royal Theatre, Northampton, from April 3 to 25. In the cast will be Aled Jones, erstwhile boy soprano, now juvenile lead.

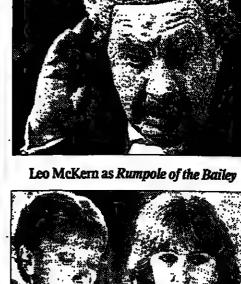
Hockney set fair **GLYNDEBOURNE** Touring Opera will give a London season for the first time. The company will perform a month-long season at Sadier's Wells from September 24, replacing its annual Sussex season in Glyndebourne. By then, Glyndebourne's opera house will be demolished to make way for the new theatre. Most interest will probably lie in the 1975 John Cox staging of Stravinsky's Rake's Progress, with designs by David Hockney. Although the production has been seen around the world, this will be its first

novelist/screenwriter. Even where Last chance . . .

FIRST time round, English

National Opera just missed the flavour of Kurt Weill's tale of New York tenement life, Street Scene. The revival hits the work, half-musical and half-opera, dead centre, with an almost entirely new set of principals led by Lesley Gar-rett. The Act II jitterbug dance number proves that there is plenty of vitality among those denizens of the brownstones, especially with James Holmes conducting. The final perfor-

836 3161) is tomorrow.



Anna Massey (left) in Hotel du Lac



Albert Finney (right) in The Green Man

novels. P.D. James has admitted

that she imagines actor Roy Marsden when she writes about her detective Adam Dalgliesh, and Ruth Rendell that George Baker's performance as Inspector Wexford is now in her mind when she writes Wexford tales; his interpretation has influenced the churacter.

screenplays as novels afterwards.

The symbiosis between film and

television, then, has given rise to the

the books are adapted by others,

dramatisations may feed back into

Rendell, writing as Barbara Vine, has a forthcoming adaptation, A Fatal Inversion, screened in May, as is Angus Wilson's Anglo Saxon Attitudes. Muriel Spark's Memento Mori is due at the end of this month. Further ahead, rights have been bought in Julie Burchill's No Exit, Maeve Haran's Having It All and Barbara Trapido's Temples of De-

TELEVISION REVIEW

No way to beat racial prejudice

should recruit more non-white officers. Unfortunately, those best placed to exert pressure — politicians, civil servants, newspapers, television - risk being accused of living in glass-houses and throwing stones. However tiny the percentage of black cop-pers is, it is rather higher than the percentage of black MPs, or black journalists in the

The difference is that while politicians and journalists may have a strong indirect influ-ence on ordinary lives, police officers clearly have a strong direct influence. When there is racism in the police, ordinary people (particularly in the ethnic minorities) are the first to know. Conversely, when there is racism on the streets, a black policeman may be a prime target.

Three years ago, a Des-mond Wilcox television series followed seven non-white Metropolitan Police recruits through their training and first weeks on the beat. Last night's sequel, Black in Bine (BBC 1), brought the story up to date and then engaged the Metropolitan Police commissioner, Sir Peter Imbert, in

discussion. Statistics are wonderfully versatile tools. Sir Peter, pointing to the Met's new policy of targeting recruitment advertising at the ethnic communities, claimed a 25 per cent increase in black and Asian recruits

that this meant non-white rather than 2 per cent of the

Nor was the anecdotal evidence from the original seven encouraging. Two quit before the end of their probationary peared to have little to do with racism. A further officer, Julie, has also now gone. She claimed that she was largely confined to desk duties, and so missed her target figures for arrests. Was that because of her colour or her sex? "I had a lot of problems with certain people on my relief," she said. Another woman recruit told the story of being on the beat

with a partner who said: "You mustn't get offended if I call black people niggers." Strangely, she did. Moreover she felt that "the sexism was enormous: women weren't given any respect".

has stuck it out - acknowledged that racism exists in the police, and even that she was a victim. But she laughed it off as part of what the programme called the "sub-culture" of the Met. "If you're Irish you get teased for your accent. You either accept it as being in jest or get aggravated by it . . . that's when problems arise." Her attitude was: "it's just harmless fun". Not everybody on the streets of Brixton would put it that way.

> RICHARD MORRISON

GALLERIES: MANCHESTER

Patchy but provocative in the best sense



Expressive example of Expressionism: Karl Schmidt-Rottluff's Girl from Kowno. 1918, is included in the exhibition "The Expressionist Face - Graphic Art in Germany 1905-1925" at Manchester City Art Gallery until May 4

The music of Kokoschka and the painting of Schoenberg are among the delights John Russell Taylor discovers in Manchester's celebration of the Expressionist movement

hy Expressionism? And why in Man-chester, for that matter? The answer to both questions, as so often, turns out to be the determination, obsession almost, of one person. David Fisk conceived the idea of an International Festival of Expressionism five years ago; he happened to be studying music in Manchester at the time, and so the combination seemed reasonable, if not What is amazing is the variety and scope of the festival

he has cooked up, and the number of cooperative gallerles and musical or theatrical venues. The festival proper lasts only from February 29 to March 22, but most of the exhibitions involved did not even open until halfway through, and all run on considerably beyond the end. Fortunately, perhaps, the organisers disclaim all intention to give a comprehensive account of the Expressionist movement in the arts, let alone to get into wrangles about what belongs in the category. Most of what is actually visible is German or Austrian, and most dates implicitly, as The Expressionist Face at the City Art Gallery does explicitly, from between 1905 and 1925.

Best to prepare for patchy and provocative, for that is what is on offer. The faces in the City Art Gallery show are all depicted in one form of print or another. What might be confusing is saved by crisp and elegant layout from seem-ing so: a collection of selfportraits leads the neophyte gently in, indicating by its swift transitions from the realism of Kathe Kollwitz to the confident simplifications of Erich Heckel and the violent distortions of early Kokoschka that Expressionism is more of

clearly defined style. A show of Expressionist Prints by Ko-luselika at the Whitworth Art Gallery, which includes some of the same images, makes the same point succinctly in the development of one artist dur-

ing one phase of his career. Next door at the Whitworth is a fascinating show which makes another important point about Expressionism: Arnold Schoenberg: Paintings and Drawings serves as a vital reminder that part of the Expressionist ethos was the interchangeability of the senses, and so of the arts and all aesthetic experiences. Schoenberg was primarily a composer, even early on, but

The organisers do not claim the show is comprehensive'

he took his painting seriously enough to solicit portrait commissions. Kokoschka was a dramatist and a skilled musician as well as a painter. Most others in the movement at least dabbled in media other than their principal preoccupation.

True, Schoenberg always remained an amateur painter, and unfortunately many of his self-portraits are all too redolent of the Thought Forms of Charles Leadbeater and Madame Blavatsky. They are symptomatic of the bonelesswonder approach of Symbolists who felt that training in anatomy was less important than truth to fleeting visions.

However, one must admit that some of the other portraits are rather good, and the highly unflattering self-poran emotional climate than one trait (from behind) does make one regret a little that when he moved to Los Angeles he seems to have given up painting in favour of tennis. The leap in time between these artists and A.R. Penck at

the Cornerhouse, Amanda Faulkner at the City Art Gallery, or Faulkner, Lucy Jones and John Bellany at Castlefield Gallery will probably puzzle many visitors, though presumably a certain likemindedness, a readiness to look for a deeper truth by way of a superficial distortion, will be clear enough to offer some sort of bridge. However, one must go to one of the more outlying events, the show Vi-enna: Expressionist Tendencies since 1945 at Salford Museum and Art Gallery, to encounter at least implied

Though the title is correct, in that everything on show seems to have been painted after 1945, it does lead gently in with late works of artists such as Anton Kolig and Josef Dobrowsky, who were born in the 1880s and provided a direct link with the Ur-Expres sionists. Armed with this insight, one can see precisely how a certain mood, a certain attitude to the subject-matter of painting, persisted and developed. The show is confined to Austria, but what it says about Expressionism is of much wider validity.

● The Expressionist Face is at Manchester City Art Gallery (06 l-236 5244) until May 4. and Amanda Faulkner until April 5. Arnold Schoenberg and Oskar (061-228 7621) until April 19. 736 2649) until April 5.

since Wilcox's series was

Kokoschka are at the Whitford Art Gallery (061-274 4865) until May 9 and April 25 respectively. ● A.R.Penck and Malerei auf Papier are at the Cornerhouse ● Vienna: Expressionist Ten-dencies since 1945 is at Salford Museum and Art Gallery (061-

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Back to the Russian front

hen the Royal Opera House needed someconnections to head the committee for its forthcoming gala. Welcome Back St Petersburg, in aid of the Mariensky Theatre — to be held on election night — it lit upon the tall, fair, ethereal figure of Sacha, Duchess of Abercom, nee Alexandra Anastasia Phillips. As a descendant of the Tsar Nicholas I, and Pushkin's great-great-great-granddaughter. she is the ideal figurehead - Old Russia aiding former Soviet state culture in search of Western funds.

The duchess has an air of quiet calm, which she deploys in her day job as a Jungian psychotherapist. She has fashioned a consulting room in the stables of her house in Northern Ireland, and sometimes retreats to its silence and isolation herself: there is enough in her own recent family history to inspire a Russian drama.

She was the favourite grandchild of Lady Zia Wernher, owner of racehorses, staple of the society columns, friend of the Queen. The family millions came from the diamond mines of Sir Julius Wernher, famous for philanthropy and his art collection; the Russian countess Zia, who married his son, brought connections with all the royal Houses of Europe, including Prince Felix Yusupov, who mur-

dered Rasputin. "I found Zia intriguing. She was quite different from anyone else," the duchess says of her imperious grandmother.

"She never lost her Russian accent, and had a fascination with her ancestry. She would tell me all about the wide network of Romanoff connections, and about her grandfather Pushkin, so it was like a drip feed of Russian culture. We

had a great affinity."

Of the four Phillips granddaughters, two became duchesses: Sacha's sister Tally (Natalia) married Gerald Grosvenor, Duke of Westminster. Fiona married a Scottish laird, Marita married the dashing sportsman Randali Crawley, tragically killed with his brother in an air crash in 1988.

They all lead philanthropic working lives, and each is a mother of three; but they have all had to mourn the loss of their only brother Nicky, just a year ago. He was found in the garage at the Wernhers' house, Luton Hoo, with the car engine running. He was 43. The verdict was accident; but

his death remains a mystery.
"We were extremely close," the duchess says. "But one of the tragedies of life is when people don't allow their feelings any channel or outlet, and hold on tight to everything. He held on to every happy thing and every sad thing. He was absolutely stoic."

Valerie Grove meets an English

duchess with a mission to help St

Petersburg theatre

She feels more passionately than ever that it is vital to encourage children to write: hence her cre-ation of a Pushkin Prize, which she runs for children writing north and south of the Irish border. The competition has been going for five years and past judges include Roald Dahl. Seamus Heaney and Ted Hughes. "This year, I want the children to write about their feelings. It's so interesting that the Catholic tradition finds it much easier to express itself; the Protestants are more blocked, defensive,

they don't have a voice." Life in Northern Ireland, she says, causes a gradual corrosion of energy that can very easily slip into depression. A schoolteacher friend, who had UDR connections, was shot through the shoul-

'Pushkin produced a masterpiece in every literary form. His output was massive'

THE DUCHESS OF ABERCORN

der the other day when his car was ambushed. "A good man, derailed by this pointless violence. It builds up such tension; you put up barricades around yourself, to protect your feelings.

In her psychotherapy, the duchess deals with people in a state of crisis, or at some personal crossroads: they have a deep unease, which she encourages them to think of as a physical object like a rock or stone, which has a colour and shape. She also applies her own meditation energising techniques to herself. "Since my, brother died I realise that to look after myself is so much harder than other people. I feel I didn't see what was coming, and could have done something."

In 1987 the Phillips family, including brother Nicky, invited Pushkin scholars, Old Russians and communists from all over the world to a Pushkin weekend at Luton Hoo to commemorate the 130th anniversary of Pushkin's

Ever since then. Sacha and her sister Marita have been studying Pushkin, learning Russian, going rusnkin, learning Russian, going back and forth to Russia and reviving the family links. The chapel at Linon Hoo has been rededicated to the Russian Orthodox church. Sacha founded her Pushkin Prize, and Marita began writing a play about the appropriate writing a play about the extraordinary life, marriage and death of

Russia's literary genius. "Pushkin produced a master-piece in every literary form. His output was massive, his energy prodigious," the duchess says. He was also a gambler, drinker and womaniser, who died in a duel over his coquettish wife, Natalia. "He was only 36. He was impulsive, charming, lively, loved every moment of his existence.

"His real inspiration was the fairy stories told to him by his old nanny Annie Rodionova; he spent all his time with her because his parents totally ignored him."
Though educated in French, he wrote in Russian and gave the Russians a sense of their own-literary identity that they had never had before the equivalent of Dante in Italy and Shakespeare in

Now that the duchess has redis-covered her Russian background, she has visited the Mariensky Theatre, home of the Kirov. Going through St Petersburg is

just like coming into a fairy story you know very well, she says. "But the conditions at the theatre are so awful. The dancers literally don't have enough to eat to dance on."

Her own coming out ball, in 1964, was a throwback to imperial Russia, an event of fin-de-siècle magnificence hosted by ber grandmother at Luton Hoo. The Royal family came and dined off the Russian Imperial plate, and 800 guests danced to Joe Loss until 6am. (Her grandmother declared that the whole point of the event was to get Sacha married off, but her future husband James Hamilton, later Duke of Aber-corn, failed to attend — "so that's £14.000 thrown away," remarked her father - and they did not meet until the following year.)
The event at Covent Garden on

April 9 will be glittering. The Princess of Wales will be there. The Kirov Ballet is arriving from Palermo, the orchestra and chorus from St Petersburg, and they hope to raise at least £50,000 for the Mariensky Theatre. with a pro-gramme embracing Tchalkovsky, Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Rimsky-Korsakov - and including, of course, extracts from Boris Godunov, Eugene Onegin and The Queen of Spades, all based on the poems and novels of the duchess's beloved Pushkin, so the family connection is sealed.



The Duchess of Abercom: "Pushkin's real inspiration was the fairy stories told by his old nanny"

AND BRIEFLY.

A sweet tasting

from blut seein

WHAT causes chocolate to "bloom" that is, turn grey and look unappetising? It blooms either because it has been kept too hot (the cocoo butter crystals become unstable and rise to the surface, making the texture gritty), or because it has been stored in damp conditions (the sugar crystals attract the water molecules and migrate to the surface where they re-crystallise). These, and other facts about chocolate are distributfacts about chocolate are distributed regularly to members of The Chocolate Society, who next Thursday will be tasting "at least 15 types of bon-bons and some chocolate pastry, as well as the famous Maison du Chocolat hot chocolate — all brought directly from Paris", at the Westminster College restaurant in St Vincent College restaurant in St Vincent Square, London SW1, Tickets are £13.50 each. Further details of the society and its lists of mail order chocolate goodies from The Chocolate Society (0943 851101).

Safety net

IN THE wake of the abductions of women estate agents Suzy Lamplugh and Stephanie Slater, Texas Homecare has devised safe-ty guidelines for all its female furniture consultants who have to visit customers at their homes. These include logging their whereabouts in a book, calling in on arrival at and departure from an appointment — and issuing them with a shrill alarm and a torch.

V&A setting

THERE are few museum exhibi-tions where you can take the exhibits away, but vintage cos-tume jewellery pieces such as those in the "Jewels of Fantasy" which opens at the Victoria & Albert Museum today will be on sale in the museum shop for the duration of the show (until July 5).

Pieces from the private collec-tion of Fior, the Knightsbridgebased costume jeweller, as well as vintage collars, bracelets, brooches and ear-rings by Hattie Carnegle, Christian Dior and Elsa Schiaparelli are on sale together with contemporary copies and current collections from Swarovski, the exhibition's sponsor, and Cobra & Bellamy. For those fired to collect costume jewellery, Christie's is holding a "designer costume jewellery" sale on Wednesday, April 1 at 10.30am at its Kensington herosch.

ton branch.
Vivienne Becker, the exhibition's curator, will lead a study day on April 22 in the lecture theatre of the V&A from II am-2pm, cost 530. Bookings can be made on 071-938 8407.

VICTORIA MCKEE



WOMEN HAVE A LOT ON THEIR PLATES

AT THE BEST OF TIMES





Juggling the ceaseless demands of family, home and job is a tricky balancing act most women are only too well aware of.

But, with a little natural assistance each day from the oil extracted from the seeds of the

Evening Primrose flower, more and more women feel themselves better able to maintain a healthy hormonal balance throughout their menstrual cycle.







Available in taste-free capsules as well as chewy fruit flavour Berries, you'll find Seven Seas

Evening Primrose Oil at Boots and all major chemists and health departments.

SEVEN SEAS **EVENING PRIMROSE OIL** Take Good Carc of Yourself



Dea Birkett sailed back from Africa as a steersman in a boilersuit

forbidden land — male territory. I acquired a male name, male dress and lived entirely in male company. For three months I had and alien masculine world. was a member of crew on a British cargo vessel working the West African route.

I began one sticky afternoon, just before the rains broke on the West African coast, when I clambered up the MV Minos' gangway in Apapa docks, Lagos, Nigeria adorned in my finest flowery sun-dress. I wanted to impress the Captain. The shore staff had warned me that a young woman joining the ship would not be welcomed.

I had been following the Victorian traveller Mary Kingsley through West Africa, and had wanted to return to Britain as she had - by sea. But this was a working vessel, carrying cocoa beans, salt and West African timber, not passengers. I had to sign on as a member of crew. Seaman Birkett was hastily added to the crew list. I regarded my title as a mere formality. After months batding my way through West Africa, I looked forward to a safe, easy passage home in the familiar surroundings of

a British ship.

But the Minos was the most extraordinary country I ever visited. If I had found West Africa strange, on board all the normal divisions of the day and week we take for granted disappeared. We ailed in our own time zone, adjusting our clocks by half an hour each day for the next port of call. We were seldom

in sync with any piece of land. The Minos had a clear hierarchy. The divisions between the British officers and African crew had been established for decades. They are in eparate mess rooms, drank in separate bars, and retired to cabins on separate decks. But my own position was not so clear cut.

"Thought you were some sort of missionary for the blacks," said the Captain when I came on board, looking my slight frame up and down and clearly most concerned. "But I can see you're not - you're young." The prospect of my spending 3,500 miles on board did not enthrall him. But he did not have any choice, as the shipping line had already agreed

Rites of passage



Out west: Dea Birkett followed a Victorian traveller to sign me on. On his ship, everyone had a strictly defined role which was embossed upon their cabin door — PURSER, MASTER, CHIEF OFFICER, BOAT-SWAIN, COOK, The Captain and his men needed to

find a place for me.
"Steersman. First watch." announced the Captain at my first breakfast in the officers' mess. I did not even hold a car driving licence. And here was being asked to steer a 21,000-ton cargo vessel.

But my apprenticeship in practical seafaring skills was simple compared to a far more difficult education. I had to learn to be one of the boys. This was a world where no woman trod. This was how men dared to act when utterly free from the female gaze.

By day I was taught on the bridge how to steer this huge vessel, at night in the bar I was tutored in the ways of a seaman. For my first few days on board, the officers had censored their language. Then the bawdiness returned. I began to smoke

furiously and drink double rums. Then one night, instead of the usual western, a different sort of film appeared on the video. Soon the last thing I remembered each night as I slipped into bed in my cabin, was the picture of a naked woman, legs akimbo, staring out from the video screen in the officers' saloon.

lready my faint-heart-ed feminist values were being turned topsy-turvy. I felt it the greatest honour when the men swore outrageously at me and leered openly at the smutty films. Surely these were signs of my acceptance?

But I wasn't being accepted. I was being assimilated. The men could not live with a woman on board. So they transformed me into one of them, one of the boys. The Chief Steward, keeper of the slops chest, ushered me into his office one afternoon and presented me with a boilersuit, the seamen's working uniform. It had a 42in

chest, the smallest he had.

boy. The African crew gave me my male name — Jella. In their language, it means small boy. At last the fact that I was female could be convethe boilersuited Jella.

But it wasn't only a mask for the convenience of men. I soon felt like the steersman Jella myself. When we docked at Douala, Cameroon, an invitation to go whoring seemed quite natural. Watch-ing the Chief Steward check the seamen for VD was as normal a daily occurrence as brushing my teeth. And when one evening I put on my flowery sun-dress, I felt as if I were in fancy dress.

Smug in my new masculine identity, I smoked drank, and steered on board, and danced to the heavy West African beat in the discos at our ports of call. Being a boy was such fun. I couldn't imagine a world with women

docking in Ghana, the First Engineer rang up to my cabin. "There are seven air hostesses in the bar if you fancy a bit of female com-pany." Their plane had been grounded at Accra, and they vere waiting for a new bit to be flown out

Bedecked in my boilersuit. I swaggered into the saloon. slouched heavily in the seat with my legs sprawled apart, and pulled out a cigarette. I looked about at the air hostesses, heavily made up and in pretty party dresses, being eagerly entertained by the officers who were goading them to dance. They seemed to belong to a strange, foreign tribe called women, as distant from me as the Hausa or Yoruba of West Africa. What's it like being among all these men?" one particularly lovely lady asked. It seemed a ridiculous question. It was these visions of feminily who made me feel

uncomfortable. The hostess persisted. "What's it like among all these seamen?" I drew on my cigarette and exaggeratedly knocked back my beer. But one of my fellow seamen answered for me. "Oh, she's not a woman. She's Jella. She's one of us . . . "

Dea Birkett's Iella: A Woman at Sea (Gollancz, £14.99) is pub-

From true blue to seeing red

Alice Thomson meets a Conservative who is willing to stand against her party to support her imprisoned son

one of those staunchly loyal, indefatigable women that only the Conservative party can conjure up. A self-defined "housewife", she owns her own family business. is a branch membership secretary for the West Oxfordshire Conservative Associ-ation in Douglas Hurd's constituency and a member of its executive council and women's committee.

She thrived under Margaret Thatcher and finds
John Major sexy. "Until now
I was an active and hardworking Conservative supporter," she says.

Now Mrs Brown has decided to do something which will be considered quite extraordinary by her col-leagues. On April 9 she is going to stand against Mr Hurd, the man for whom she has canvassed many times. Mr Hurd is generally talked about in awed tones by Tory women as being reliable, trustworthy and statesmanlike. His majority at the last election was 17,000. So why

is Mrs Brown opposing him? The answer is Nicholas, her son. He has been held in prison for 14 months on a drug charge in Goe, the former Portuguese enclave in India. Charged with possessing half an ounce of cannabis, he has told the authorities it was planted on him by the police. When Mrs Brown pressed Mr Hurd over her son's plight she said it was like "talking to a brick wall". She bears no personal grudge against Mr Hurd, but is livid at what she sees as the Foreign Office's indifference to the plight of British pris-

oners abroad. Six weeks ago Mrs Brown read an article about the launch of Fair Trials Abroad, a hu-'I know rights als for Britons Very abroad.

shortly after she

made contact with them they asked her to be their can-

didate for the elec-

any British citizen

who faces criminal

only get votes but that tion. She says she is not just standing doesn't for her son, but for matter'

charges abroad. Fair Trials
Abroad was set up by Stephen Jakobi, the lawyer of Karyn Smith, the young girl impris-oned in Bangkok for heroin smuggling, and is supported by the human rights subcommittee of the European Parliament and relatives and friends of Britons imprisoned abroad. "Our aims are to provide legal aid for those who cannot afford to seek legal advice. British government observers at trials abroad and independent evaluation of fairness of trials." Mr Jakobi says. He wants to see an acknowledgement that the rights of its citiziens abroad are important to the British gov-ernment of the day. The Liberal Democrats have given their support: the Labour and Conservatives parties have not endorsed them.

As a Conservative living in the foreign secretary's constituency, and one of the few people with a relative in prison who feels physically and emotionally able to speak in public about her experience. Mrs Brown is the ideal candidate for Fair Trials Abroad.

The day after she announced her intention to stand. I went to see her. An effusive blonde swathed in leggings and large sweater met me at the door of Mulberry Cottage where Mrs Brown lives with the man she describes as boyfriend, lover and business partner before deciding on "chap". She is divorced from Nicholas's father, William Brown, but he is supporting her candidature as her agent.

Nicholas Brown, 28, tall and lanky, used to work for the family heating company but gave it up to travel the world for two years and found himself falling in love with India. According to his mother he decided, on a whim, to motorbike north to south and stopped off at Goa to see friends for Christmas.

Riding his bike along a narrow track on December 21, 1990, he was suddenly

arilyn Brown hauled into a police van with saying, get the Foreign Office appears to be another young man, his to after their attitude and to mother says. The young man put human rights and British apparently admitted to have people at the top of the ing 15g of cannabis but agenda. asked to be taken to his home in order, he said, to get some money to pay the police off.

After doing the deal, the police turned to Nicholas and

Her friends are surprised but impressed by Mrs Brown's stance. The attitude

Conservative Association remains to be seen. They refuse to comment on the case but have not taken away Mrs

"Many didn't know about

my son before this because I used to find it difficult talking

about him without breaking down," she says. "But I hope they will understand. Most are caring people first and ardent Conservatives

Brown's membership.

produced 15g of cannabis out of his back pocket.

"It was a plant," his mother says. "They had his wallet so he couldn't pay them off.
There is tremendous political

pressure to stamp out drugs.

Most police are easily paid off

but occasionally they have to get someone."
According to Mrs Brown,
Nicholas's lawyer, Peter
D'Souza, a Goan, has spoken out bravely on police corruption and believes in Nicholas's innocence. Her son is being kept in good condi-tions, but he may have to wait three years for his trial to end

- and then the minimum sentence if found guilty is

eight years.

The Foreign Office says that it is not within the government's power to make the legal systems of foreign countries just like those in Britain. It says that except in cases of manifest injustice, the government cannot intervene in the trials of prisoners abroad. This it says, is especially true where the country concerned has a reputable legal system, as in India. Mr Hurd speit out this view

in a letter to The Daily
Telegraph last week in response to a news story on Mrs
Brown. "Political intervention on anything other than
humanitarian grounds is likely to be counter-productive. We know how we in Britain would resent interference in our legal system by ministers from overseas. Brit-ish nationals who travel

abroad must remember that when in foreign countries they are Brown Mrs

reluctantly under-stands that the government can-not always become politically entangthey could be more sonal level. "I was given no

advice or support when my son was charged," she says. "I had no reply to my first letter. [The Foreign Office say their response was lost in the post.] I have been in touch with other families of British prisoners abroad and they all say the same thing. You are on your own, that is what is so

On their own initiative she and her husband and her partner embarked on an appeal for elemency to the local signatories. On January 24 she wrote to Mr Hurd as her constituency MP and received a reply saying he would write in support but says she has heard nothing since. The Foreign Office say that Mr Hurd sent a letter of endorsement on March 12.

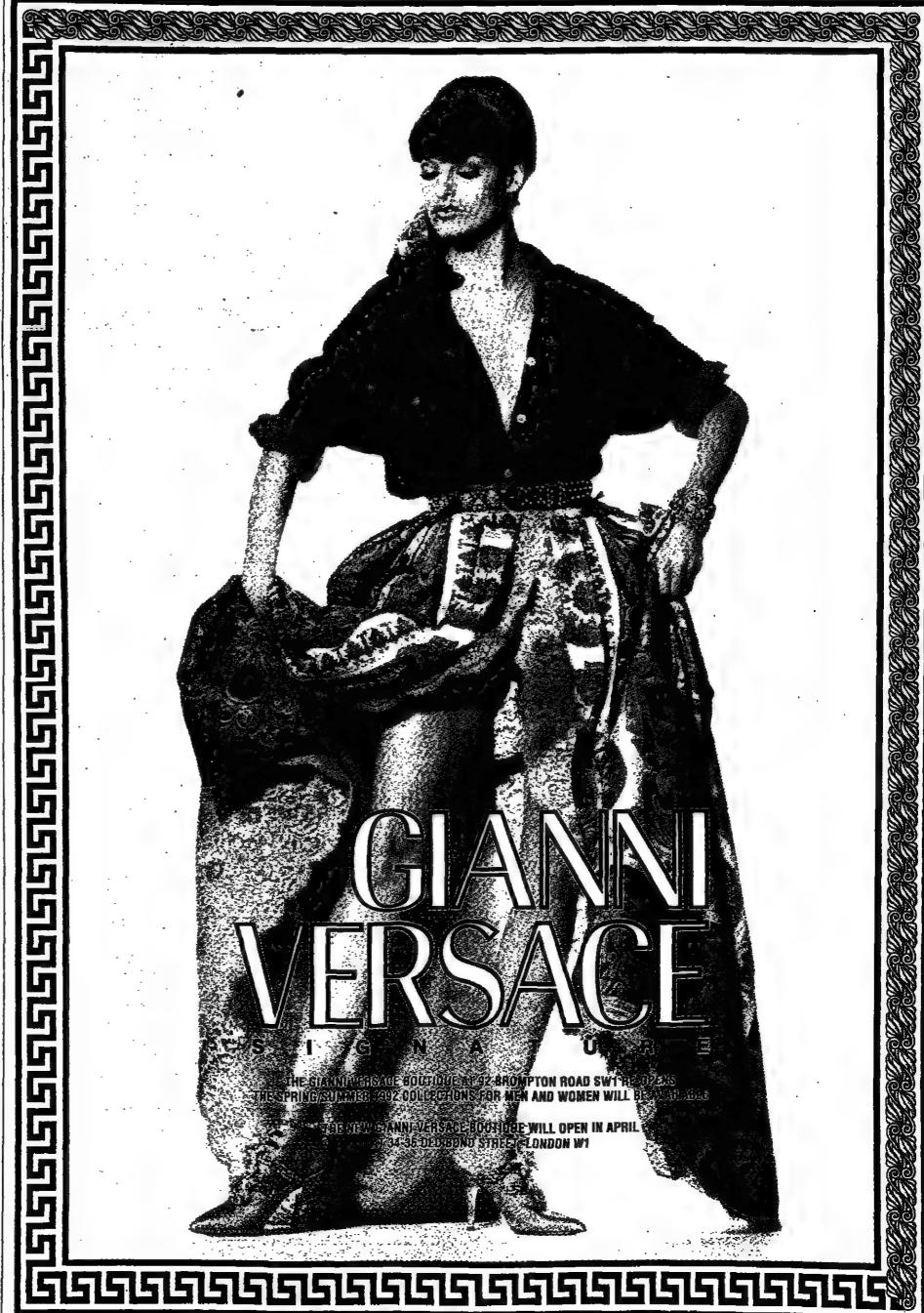
very couple of days Mrs Brown and her son exchange letters but he does not want her to go out to see him unless there is something she can do. Consuls from the British High Commission do see him every three months but Mrs Brown says, "they are always changing, they know little about his case and they don't seem to want to know any more". The Foreign Office believes consuls are making every effort and the service is improving. They add that they receive "endless" letters from Britons whom they have helped

Mrs Brown says she does not mind if she is being used as a publicity vehicle by Fair Trials Abroad to aid their campaign. The organisation put up her deposit and Mr Jakobi is her campaign adviser. On Saturday Mrs Brown will hold a meeting in her home for those who have expressed an interest and there will be an election leafler but no canvassing as they do not have enough staff.

"I know I may only get two votes but that doesn't maiter," Mrs Brown says. "I want to put pressure on all the parties to listen to what we are



Ideal candidate: Marilyn Brown, a Tory, is furious at what she sees as Foreign Office indifference to the plight of British prisoners abroad



Mounting a giveaway

Jane Reed

here do you one-stop shop for garden forks, waterbottles, floppy discs, CDs, dolls and classic novels? Harrods, perhaps? Your local newsagent is nearer and the loot is cheaper - if not free.

As the big spring magazine promotions get under way, the news-stands are groaning with giveaways, called covermounts in the trade. But a lot has changed since the famous onesock covermount. (Think about it: the great unsocked had to buy two copies).

Strong men fainting in the print halls as the fumes of broken shampoo covermounts wafted over them, when "printcity' Watford hung under an egg and lemon haze, are just unpleasant memories.

Covermounts today are seriously BIG. The waterbottle on the cover of last month's launch issue of Cycling Plus would cost £2.35 in the shops. So big was it that only one copy could be stacked on the shelf, the rest

were left to be tripped over on the floor. Kevin Cox. of Future Publishing. explains that it did the business for the title: "We reached our 40.000-plus target with this issue, which means that with our other title Mountain Biking UK we have two market lead-

But the newsagents are not smiling quite so broadly. While of course

welcoming anything that sells news buyer of W H Smith, feels such a large gift probably oversteps what is acceptable, and questions the level of circulation retention after big gifts. "Are we selling water bottles or magazines?" he wonders. He recently had to reject a magazine wrapped around a can of dog food.

Covermounts are not sure-fire circulation builders. Says Peter Jackson, of Grayling Publishing, the guru on giveaways: "A gift — however good — on a poor magazine will be a massive waste of time and money." But if the gift is relevant and the magazine good, a covermount can put up to 25 per cent on to the circulation.

If the brand is strong enough though, is a covermount really necessary? Women's magazines that five years ago would have felt naked without a widget in the corner, are changing their tactics. "If you have a strong brand, putting the money you used to spend on widgets back into the title has to make better sense in the long run," Mr Chapman says. He admits, though, that a good lipstick can still put on 15 per cent in one this magazine or we shoot the hit. I seem to remember the

good uplifts, too.

more than clever sampling aids. Some titles are launched with the covermount as an integral part of the package.

No one launching a com-

puter magazine would dream of not covermounting a floppy disc or computer game. The same goes for music. Classic CD has spawned a range of publishing imitations with either cassettes or CD compilations on the cover. Mr Cox again: "The record companies pay for the music. They want to introduce prospective buyers to Janáček, or a new recording of

The Cunning Little Vixen." Classic CD is priced to include the costs of cover mounting, and since the newsagent gets a percentage of the cover price, there are no complaints if the price is higher (at £3.25) than you would expect to pay for a conventional magazine.

Also not complaining are the golf addicts. Phil Scarlett, of John Menzies Retail, sees a summer golf ball STORY

£1.50. it is cheaper to buy several copies of Golf Monthly than it is to buy the balls.

The only problem is", says Mr Scarlett, "with 800-1,000 magazines competing for space in our mounted golf balls take up more than their share of shelf space."

In some areas the covermount is turning into the host vehicle. In your newsagent this week you will see an A3, elegantly bound hardback of one of Charlotte Bronte's classics - surely worth upwards of £12 in a bookshop. In the polythene envelope with the book, is a magazine giving an excellent background to the novel. This Marshall Cavendish collection is all yours for £4.50

every fortnight for two years.
"This is really a book with a covermounted magazine." Mr Chapman says. The same goes for Fabbri Publishing's Vicky, a girls" "product" that gave away a full-size doll and one set of clothes with its first issue, the idea being that your seven-yearold goes on collecting the further packages of clothes on every issue. Launch issue hit an astonishing 300,000, but the retention level remains to be

Some pundits see the relentless march of the covermount as unstoppable, others as part of a cycle. Whatever the long-term prospects, I doubt any will beat the famous National Lampoon cover that pictured a winsome dog" ran the coverline. They

The fat lady opens her lungs

Andrew Lycett on the brave battle by the team that

bought out the Birmingham Post

The kitsch statuette in Chris Oakley's office at-tests to his difficulties in pulling off Britain's biggest ever newspaper management tion of the Birmingham Post and Mail group (BP&M) last November. Depicting a portly black diva. the bust carries the inscription. "The Fat Lady Finally Sang on 14 November 1991".

Through seven months of "hell", Mr Oakley, the Post's managing director and editor-in-chief, and five colleagues struggled to keep their bid together as the incum-bent publisher, the American Ralph Ingersoil, sought a German partner, then a rival management buyout offer emerged, and finally, established newspaper chains such as EMAP tried to nibble away at choice bits of the BP&M.

At one stage the group's flagship paper, the Birmingham Post, even announced the opposing buyout had succeeded. Mr Oakley's accountants reassured him that it was not over until the fat lady sang. One of his team, Terry Page, the Post's editor and now editorial director of the renamed Midland Independent Newspapers (MIN), says: "She may not have sung, but she was putting on her make-up in the other team's dressing room."

For weeks after the deal, Mr Oakley kept silent as he addressed his new responsibilities as MIN's chief executive. An early decision - difficult in the current property market - was to dispose of the plush London building. off the Strand. Bits and pieces from the sale, including a portrait of Charles II, are strewn outside Mr Oakley's new office, which he moved into last week.

Now at last MIN is moving forward. Today sees the launch of its first new title, Midlands TV Week, a stand-alone regional teleexpected to sell 30,000 copies at 10p. Later this week Mr Oakley hopes to announce the purchase of two more newspapers in the Mid-lands. These will sit alongside MIN's four main titles, the Birmingham Post, the Evening Mail, the Sunday Mercury and the Coventry Evening Telegraph.
It also owns seven free newspapers, a London-based advertisement sales agency, and a Birmingham headquarters valued

The Post was the centre of a successful provincial newspaper business, the first to record a profit above £1 million in the 1960s. It subsequently lost its way but, at E80 million, was attractive to Mr Ingersoli, and he acquired the Yattendon Trust in 1987. Mr Ingersoil, who owned regional papers in the United States, invested a further £20 million in four



Birmingham, one for Coventry) which can turn out 60,000 newspapers an hour, plus £5 million to cut the workforce by a third to

His first initiative was to try to purchase the Birmingham free newspaper, the *Daily News*, founded in 1984. In 1988 he offered Reed £17 million for it but the deal fell through, so Mr Ingersoil invested E7 million in building up the Focus group, his own stable of 39 free titles. The effect was to drag all frees in the city down. Now the Daily (Metro) News is weekly, and the Focus group has just four titles.

Meanwhile, the four paid-for dailies battled on The soft-spaken.

dailies battled on. The soft-spoken, bearded Mr Oakley, who made his name as the Liverpool Echo's campaigning editor, was brought in as editor-in-chief and deputy managing director in 1989. He became managing director in April 1990. Under his aegis, the

VIEWING PATTERNS

SATURDAY MARCH 7

Evening Mail has stabilised sales around 220,000, after a decade of losses. The Sunday Mercury consolidated its position as the bestselling Sunday paper outside London. The Coventry Evening Telegraph claims the highest household penetration of any evening newspaper in the country (70 per cent)

But the Birmingham Post has floundered. It moved from authoritative broadsheet to tabloid in 1984, and back to broadsheet again in March 1991. The changes have only resulted in a schizoid mix of middle-market features in portentous broadsheet trappings. Sales today are under 28,000, at the bottom end of what a regional daily can bear.

Now he has overall control, Mr Oakley dismisses suggestions that the title will be closed. This month the Post began a £750,000 canvassing and sampling campaign.
This allows readers to sample the

VIEWERS' FLIGHT TO TV HEAVEN

Chris Oakley: 'After all the ups and downs, we're trying to project a steady course. I'm a great believer in doing what you do well' paper in their homes for up to two months, in an effort to break them

from national newspaper habits. Since the move back to broadsheet, the average age of *Post* readers is beginning to drop from 45, without losing its influential business constituency. Mr Oakley claims advertising revenue is up, as it is for the other paid-for titles. Mr Page, formerly editor of the

Evening Argus in Brighton, says the Post could do with more sections. He envisages a new sports supplement and adds, "We're looking heavily at Saturdays. We already do a weekend section, but need it bigger and

The other three paid-for papers look after themselves. The new management has introduced a few innovations, such as daily supplements for the Evening Mail. The jury is still out on its attempt to expand the Coventry Evening Telegraph into neighbouring

ON LAST week's Media page Allan McKeown criticised broadcasters' reluctance to allow

repeats of successful TV series, calling their attitude "as outdated as stopping films from being shown on video and as ridiculous as Ford

insisting that nobody can buy a second-hand car. Channel 4's Saturday-night series TV Heaven has shown the popularity of re-runs of old favourites such as Upstairs Downstairs and

Edward and Mrs Simpson. The chart (left)

indicates that it is the more upmarket viewers who are attracted to these classics: on March 7

more ABCI adults watched a showing of

Upstairs Downstairs than the expensive original offerings on BBC! (Moon & Son) and ITV (The Other Side of Paradise), or the Jack Nicholson film Prizz's Honor on BBC 2. That

night Channel 4 also showed an episode from Six Nights With Barker starring Ronnie Barker and the pilot for The Persuaders series with

Roger Moore and Tony Curtis. Channel 4's screening of such ancient favourites has more than doubled its normal audience.

Nuneaton. This initiative may be scuppered by the launch of the Tr new Evening News in Nuneaton this week

Not gui not gui ne vot

And Mr Oakley does not even mention the biggest danger on his horizon: the move by Birmingham's Labour-controlled council to publish its own formightly paper, taking £650,000 of recruitment advertising.

Despite this hostile act, MIN is

one of six firms pitching to print the new title. Birmingham City Council will make up its mind on Friday for a May 12 start-up. This underlines a current weak-

ness (but potential strength): MIN's spare capacity. Currently it does some contract printing, mainly for Thomson, but Mr Oakiey wants his presses working 24 hours a day.

Additional outlays since the buyout include £250,000 for a new colour printing process. Mr Oakley says, "It is common after buyouts to be short of cash. The way we've structured this deal is that we have surplus funds and can make acquisitions.

Nevertheless, with £65 million of debt, the new team cannot afford mistakes. This explains Mr Oakley's emphasis on the continuity of John Whitehouse, the former Warwickshire cricketer who is MIN's financial director.

"After all the ups and downs of the last few years, we're trying to project a steady course," Oakley says. If everything goes right, he foresees a flotation of MIN, chaired by Sir Norman Fowler, towards the end of 1994.

There will be further acquisitions, but Mr Oakley abjures diversification into other media fields. "The strength of this management is that it is highly skilled in newspapers," he says. "I'm a great believer in doing what you

CREATIVE MEDIA & MARKETING

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经对继承的证据

Editor 'Analysis'

Weekly Programmes

News & Current Affairs, Radio

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reinforce Analysis' ability to attract the best contributors. You're an effective team leader, able to draw out and develop a topical and original agenda for the programme and to manage its budget and

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international affairs and current theological issues. You should be able to work fast and accurately under pressure and have experience of non-Christian religions.

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CREATIVE MEDIA AND MARKETING CONTINUES ON PAGE 12

Who controls television? Broadcasters deny they are swayed by skilled propagandists dreaming up sound bites and photo-ops but the accusations persist

Not guilty of duping the voters

Tony Hall defends the BBC against the charge that it has misled the electorate

ast summer, I stood trial. Together with a colleague from ITN I was in the dock at the Edinburgh TV Festival. The charge: that during the 1987 election, the BBC colluded with the political parties to mislead the British public. The evidence: we ran photo-opportunities on our news programmes. The case for the defence?

There's no doubt that some photo-opportunities stick in the mind. Mrs Thatcher cuddling a calf is a case in point. The dozen pirouetting mechanical diggers paying obeisance to her whilst the band played Flight of the Bumble Bee is another. Likewise the image of her wandering off alone into a forlorn industrial wasteland the North-East, or Neil Kinnock stumbling on a beach during a photocall at conference time. Then there are the ones you can't quite remember, but which generally involve people wearing hard hats and looking tough, or wearing floppy hats and staring into vats of dough.

Part of our job is to describe the campaign as it is being fought by the political parties. But once recorded, the pictures form just another part of the vast pool of daily news material that we slft, edit, script or throw away accord-ing to normal editorial

Those decisions aren't easy. They depend on the particular circumstance, and should always scepticism. In the end, any assertion that photo-ops win votes is an untested one, and an increasingly sophisticated electorate probably sees them for what they are.

A similar debate surrounds the use of "sound bites" which, for the uninitiated are those short extracts from political speeches that are a mainstay of political reporting. Should we be using them and, if we do so, are we being manipulated by the party propaganda

A recent study in the United States throws an uncomfortable light on the subject. Its authors say 1968, a candidate spoke on average for 43 seconds without inter-ruption. By 1988, the average was only nine seconds. The Herald Tribune concluded: "If that decline continued at a linear rate, the average sound bite in 1992 would be two seconds long, perhaps something along the lines of 'me

president, you voter'." The supposed rationale behind this is that the public's attention span is shrinking, so the shorter the quotation the better. This trend across the Atlantic must be resisted here. The audience of potential voters deserves a better

basis upon which to make its decision. That's why our correspondents and editors don't simply take the sound bite proffered by the parties. They scan speeches, press conferences and interviews for the extract which is most appropriate for the telling of the story. The decision lies with them and their good judgement.

One question above all sorts out the veteran campaign theologians from the novices at election time: who sets the agenda, the parties or

In the end I don't believe anyone does. Throughout the campaign, each party tries to determine the course the day will take. Each party has the same mission: to highlight its strengths, expose its opponents' weaknesses, and divert attention when the going gets rough. Each morning news conference takes its theme accordingly and, for the most part, those themes will differ from party to party. Then the parties use their planned, or hastily re-arranged, events of the day to try to reassert their "control of the agenda". The evening speeches aim to dominate the main broadcast news, and the morning newspapers.

hat is the theory, but in practice, the best-laid plans go awry. For a start, the parties have to respond to each other, and to the questions of journalists either sceptical or interested in matters in addition to the declared "theme of the day". They also have to respond to events beyond their control in the world outside. It all adds up to an agenda that is tugged at and tossed around hour by hour. No one controls this agenda, although many seek to.

Our job, in the BBC, is to ensure that no one party controls the agenda; that all are given due weight, and that different shades of opinion are treated fairly. We aim to ensure that over the course of the campaign we look in detail at the major policy choices facing the electorate. That means testing rigorously the issues, policies and sometimes the people that the parties would prefer us to avoid, as well as those they want us to

This, of course, can lead to. arguments, sometimes quite heated. One of the most predictable. causes of such friction often centres on the casting of live studio debates. The skills required of producers attempting to set up a three or four-way discussion at election time can be similar to those of a James Baker trying to stage the Middle East peace talks. First you decide the cast you

taking place at all. It is in those circumstances that we, the broad-

ntrally instead. It is proper that journalists listen to a legitimate range of opinions and views from as broad a cross-

accuracy. On the other hand pressure at the wrong time, or in against a deadline, prevent producers fulfilling their proper duty to get a programme on the air. That is why we are monitoring all political calls, and advising all our editors and producers to refer them to their managers when and

if they feel it necessary. I have seen it argued that broadcasters hang up their editorial spurs at election time. Almost our only journalistic judgment, it is maintained, is to make sure

detriment of our viewers and

There is no suspension of normal journalistic judgment involved in this. We maintain our editorial values and aims: to report the campaign fully and to ensure that all the issues are brought clearly and fairly before the voters. As at all other times, we must

There is one constant funda-

to get the truth across to our wen and listeners.

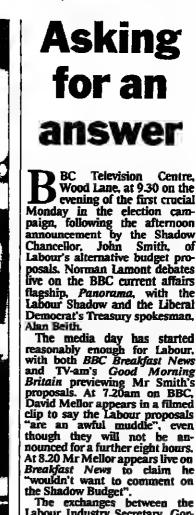
In normal times that can be a challenging task, but it is even more difficult during a campaign. Every political party will seek to interpret proper independent, editorial decision-making for their own ends. It sometimes appears as if they believe they will benefit if the broadcast media are enveloped in a fog of claim and counterclaim

about bias and pressure.

That makes the clarity of our purpose even more necessary; to be, in the midst of the campaign, the still voice of calm and reason, independent of all for the good of

A footnote on the trial: I am happy to report that the jury, some two hundred strong, rejected by an overwhelming majority the charge that we had misled the British

● The author is the BBC's director



The exchanges between the Labour Industry Secretary, Gordon Brown, and Mr Mellor feature much "bridging" — the preparing of responses rather than answers to the questions asked by the interviewer — in this case Nicholas Witchell.

To his credit Mr Witchell tells Mr Mellor that he has not answered the question when the first "bridge" takes place, but the interview then disintegrates with both sides making points rather than taking part in an interview. Mr Witchell ends by telling Mr Brown that he has not answered a question about Neil Kinnock's alleged "gaffe" on Frost on Sunday, when he spoke fondly of Michael Foot's 1983 version of the Labour party. Was this messy exchange a forerunner of future television political interviews dur-ing this election?

Honesty was seen in Jonathan Dimbleby's interview with Chancellor Lamont on Sunday's On the Record. Mr Lamont staged the interview at the Exchequer, immediately conferring incumbent status. He made sure that the glass by his side was full of water but, unlike some poli-ticians, in particular Mrs Thatcher, he did not do away with the table that separated the combatants. His performance was hesitant, but rarely "bridged" until Mr Dimbleby pressed on the question of a guarantee to bring tax down to 20 per cent.

r Lamont had stored up three sound bites, twice talking of the "pent-up spending power" in the country, and the "lag" effect of his policies before clear change results in the economy. He called Mr Dimbleby "a real press-a-button merchant" when the interviewer pushed on the speed of the recovery, and three times interrupted an interruption demanding more time. This trick invariably puts an interviewer in a weaker position. The overall result, was that although the interview was not fluent. neither linguistically graceful, or nice, it gave an indication of a politician attempt-

ing to tell the truth.
As the tax debate continued during Monday, the seemingly omnipresent Mr Mellor got an easy ride on Talking Point, an ITV phone-in question programme. The communications consultant and Paddy Ashdown speech writer, Max Atkinson, recently

claimed that such programmes can probe deeper "with the interviewer clarifying the questions from the public, insulated from accusations of political bias". This one was a failure, with smiles all round at the end, and the grinning Mr Mellor musing on which politician would be asked which politician would be asked the most questions in the pro-gramme's ten minute format. By the early evening news, John

Smith's figures had been numbercrunched and Norman Lamont had appeared at a stage-managed press conference to denounce the proposals. Although Channel 4 included criticism in its Shadow Budget package, it gave Mr Smith a cosy interview. The next interview might be anything but.
The great success of Labour's

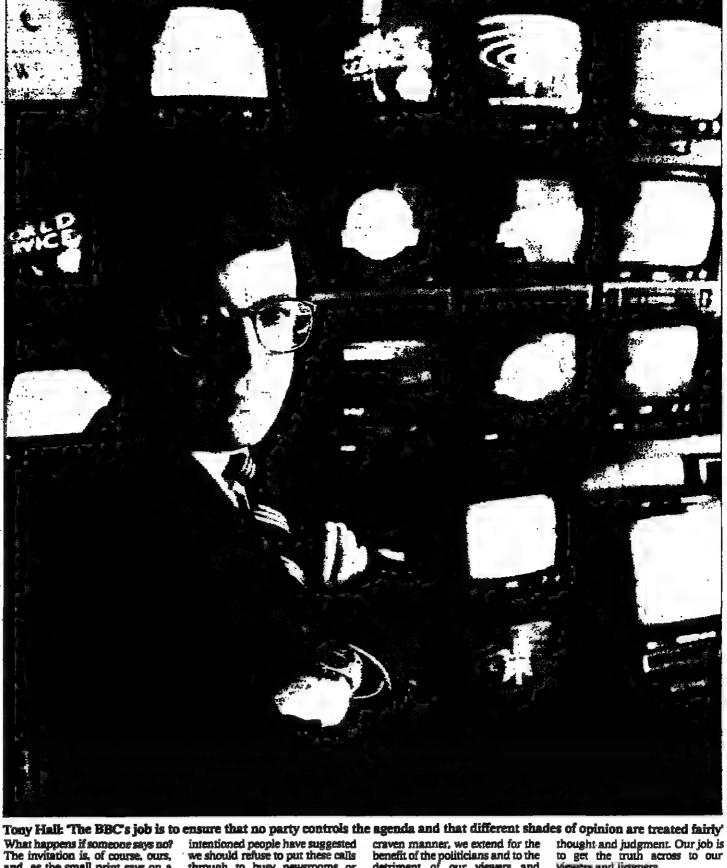
day to date was to have relegated the launch of the Liberal Democrats' tax-raising manifesto to 20 minutes into the main six o'clock BBC news bulletin.

At 9.45pm, Mr Lamont, Mr Smith and Mr Beith are nervous. Mr Smith reveals his media streetwiseness when asked to do a sound check by David Dimbleby. The interviewer asks what Mr Smith would do if he were Mr Lamont. Mr Smith doesn't give a proper reply, then adds: "Said a cautious Mr Smith, in case this is being filmed."

Mr Lamont is testier still, when isked if he buys his shirts from Harvey Procter, the former MP. The debate is low key, civilised,

well handled, but hardly the historic event we were expecting. Mr Smith had said before going live that the atmosphere was ritual", but really it was slightly dull. Perhaps it was the seating: unlike Newsnight's close-knit benches, here the three would be chanceliors were spread out with desks of their own, statesmanlike, and verbal violence never threatened.

ROBIN HUNT



What happens if someone says no? The invitation is, of course, ours, and, as the small print says on a car-park ticket, is not transferable without our agreement.

For the most part, this process is concluded successfully. But just occasionally, maybe at sensitive times during a campaign, or on especially sensitive subjects, a party will try to prevent a discussion casters, reserve the right to use the "empty chair", if we think a party's refusal to take part is genuinely designed to stille legitimate

There's been a lot of public comment about another area of conflict: the pressure applied to programme producers by the party machines. Sometimes these telephone callers seek to influence the agenda, sometimes the position of a story in the running order, sometimes to make a complaint of unfair or inaccurate through to busy newsrooms or programmes, and handle them

section as possible. They should not be cut off from a world they are seeking to report with fairness and the wrong manner, may, hard up

each party gets an equal share of airtime which, in unexplained

listeners. I find this a meretricious proposition. No one pretends that party advantage can be gauged solely in minutes and seconds; a debade on television, however long or short, can do electoral damage as surely as triumph brings approbation. But the stopwatch does provide one of a number of tests by which we can judge whether we are treating the parties fairly.

explore with rigour the policies that will determine the nation's

mental value that must imbue our

want. Then the diplomacy begins; who should be contacted first? And now, a word from our manipulator

Rob Shepherd looks

UND

vertising si

NE COMPLES

at the pressures on television news

he time has come to issue an election health warning L to all television viewers. Watching television news coverage of the campaign can seriously damage your ability to exercise

your democratic rights. Is this too alarmist? After all, most voters rely on television news for information during elections, and compared with the facile fare dished out by most of the Press, television news appears as a shining beacon of impartiality and trustworthiness. But, as tonight's Dispatches on Channel 4 Four highlights, the fact that television news is so trusted makes any manipulation of its coverage by politicians all the more sinister.

The perpetual brow-beating of broadcasters by the parties is bad enough. Even if programme editors reject specific complaints, they know, and their reporters know, that their every move is being watched by the party monitors. Under the frenetic pressures of an election, the temptation is always there for television news editors to avoid a row, to tone down their coverage, to ensure that their running order of stories gives the party that missed out last time the

lead story next time. Cases of politicians leaning on the BBC or on ITN are well documented But the most effectwe manipulation of television news by party manipulators is more insidious. It is a process that has gathered pace since the mid-1470s, when the inexperienced Margaret Thatcher first began custing round the world for the

secret to winning elections. Mrs Tharcher lighted on Australia, where Malcolm Fraser had



Calf love: Mrs Thatcher was a master of the positive image

just defeated Labour's Gough Whitlam. The lesson she learned was simple: provide the television cameras with the right pictures. and voters will believe in you.

This simple strategy was developed into a fine art by Sir Gordon Reece, Mrs Thatcher's media adviser, who appreciated both the thirst of television news editors for pictures and the credibility that television news bestows upon the images on the screen.

Mrs Thatcher cuddling a calf in a Suffolk field in 1979 marked a turning point in British election campaigning. When Mrs Thatcher again paraded before the cameras at a chocolate factory. the print journalists realised they had a new role - costumed extras in the television soap Mrs

These prototype Tory photoopportunities were cunningly pitched at the early-evening news bulletins, favoured by their target voters, the so-called C2s, skilled workers and their wives.

Thatcher Goes to Downing Street.

In the early 1980s campaign coverage was transformed by the coming of electronic news gathering (ENG), which dramatically reduced filming and editing. In the 1983 election. ITN and the BBC presented nightly packages on the

party leaders, following them from their morning press conference, on their countrywide tours, to the evening set-piece speech.

The extra coverage given to the party leaders was ideal for the Tories and disastrous for Labour. Mrs Thatcher's campaign became little more than a procession in front of the camera, one moment posing in a factory or school, the next proceeding on her way to the accompaniment of adulatory, flagwaving crowds of supporters.

Michael Foot was too guileless for this brave new world. The convention that television news gives the parties equal coverage exposed Labour's campaign. While Mrs Thatcher was shown touring triumphantly, one of the last great speech-makers was left looking like a character who had

escaped from the archives. Labour's PR transformation and its superior use of television during the 1987 campaign are now part of political folklore. With the bulk of the Press lauding Mrs Thatcher and denigrating Mr Kinnock, Labour strategists locused their efforts on television news. Labour won the battle for second place. The Alliance was sunk because the two Davids had no strategy. On the news they were Tweedledum and Tweedledee

personified. In 1992, all parties are steeped in the art of television manipulation. The agenda will be controlled by the party managers, not by the electorate; the party leaders will parade endlessly before the cam-eras looking "nice" but remaining safely mute; and the proper journalistic functions of assessing the facts and the issues, as opposed to reciting what the parties say, will

again be marginalised. There is little ground for optimism. Despite the ritualistic fine words from broadcasters about journalistic values being paramount and the need to stand up to television news are pushing in the opposite direction. When deadlines are tight and resources stretched, it is virtually impossible to avoid accepting pictures giftwrapped by the party machines. Television journalists have little option but to write their words to the images that appear on the screen. If the pictures show euphoric scenes, it is almost impossible to report gloom in the party at its poor showing in the opinion

The party manipulators are aware that voters are not naïve and expect the parties to put across their best possible image. If a party is seen to have organised a good television campaign, it will have shown that it is professional. Effective manipulation of the media thus becomes a measure of their fitness to govern.

wen more disturbing is the readiness of television news editors to collude with the process. Setting the campaign agenda is abdicated to the party managers, who decide months in advance what issues will be raised on which days. An acceptance that politicians

should set the terms of debate during an election would be bad enough in itself, but the process has gone further. In 1987, television news collaborated with Labour to film a boy who had been denied a heart operation, the day before Labour raised the issue at a morning press conference. On the morning, television news had already been primed with telling pictures as evidence of the Government's alleged failure over the

Labour's "health shock" was highly effective, triggering panic at Conservative Central Office. But what became known as the Tories' "Wobbly Thursday" should be re-named "Black Thurs.day", because editors and reporters had allowed themselves to become part of the process. As in 1987, part of the problem is the intensified competition between television channels. Pro-

ducers and reporters who jib at accepting a party-inspired story will risk their news editors' fury if other channels carry what will make a good headline, however dubious its pedigree or purpose. The thirst of television news for pictures is more insatiable than ever. There are more bulletins to

fill, demanding more pictures so that the reports can be "freshened up" and made to look more "on the spot" than their competitors', or than the previous bulletin on the same channel. In 1987, reporters on the road

found themselves having to meet six or so different deadlines a day. That in itself was an all-demanding job, never mind trying to assess what was really happening. But the reporter's ability to stand back and try to make sense of the campaign for the viewer is in danger of getting lost in the rush to get the pictures on the screen.

Britain is an imperfect democracy. Anybody who thinks otherwise might ponder how the poll tax became law (this was an issue, incidentally, that TV news failed to highlight at the last election). But once every four or five years, power returns to the people.

Television news offers the most powerful medium available to bring the politicians to account. It is time to stop treating the campaign as the property of the parties and letting them dictate the terms of debate. If we are not prepared to put politicians, our representaives, on the spot at elections, we never will. Nor will we deserve to.

 The author produced and directed Channel 4's Dispatches election campaign special, to be broadcast at 9pm tonight.

Landlords beat the gloom

Commercial space lies empty all over London, but Christopher Warman finds a letting business that is booming

space are left empty by the recession, it is encouraging to find one company that is bucking the gloomy trend. London Industrial, the biggest provider of small business space in the capital, has taken on about 20 new tenants a month since last October, and is now signing up to eight every week.

The most recent enterprises to have taken space include a minicab business and companies offering kitchen containers, car alarms, catering, clothing and videos.

The company was started in 1987 on the initiative of Inner City Enterprises (ICE), a company established by City financial institu-tions to promote and undertake regeneration property projects.
ICE acquired most of the former

Greater London Council's industrial property portfolio. In turn, the newly formed London Industrial company bought 18 small unit industrial estates, with 600 tenants, for almost £17 million.

Since then, London Industrial has developed, either by itself or in joint ventures, a further five commercial and industrial properties,

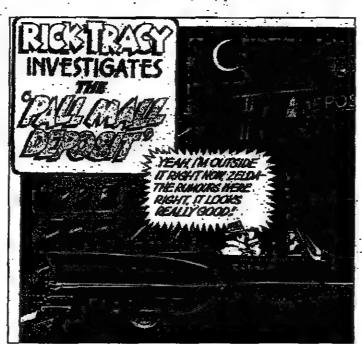
s acres of commercial and can provide for more than 800 tenants. The occupancy rate is a healthy 80 per cent.

The key to the group's success in attracting and retaining tenants is its management philosophy of "capitalism with a human face". says Alan Porter, the chairman Although London Industrial has a responsibility to its institutional shareholders, including the Prudential and Norwich Union, it also provides support services to tenants, such as a newsletter, a tenants' directory and incentives for

recommending new occupiers. Cutting the formalities to a minimum, the company offers easy-in-easy-out leases, backed by a management system that ensures that tenants do not get themselves into substantial rent arrears. The system is aimed at keeping 97 per cent of tenants up to date with their

Mr Porter says: "Because we were new, we could bring in stateof the art administration and man-

When we started, there were serious arrears in rents, and the estates were in a poor state. The general reaction of tenants was to welcome the new managers, who



The lighter side of marketing: a London Industrial brochure

kept in touch and made the estates run more efficiently, while gradually bringing rents up to open-market

Mr Porter says that because the company is owned by the institutions, it has to earn income at the market rate. "But we do have the interests of the community at heart," he adds. "We are 99.5 per cent wholly commercial, but com-

munity-orientated." The company's marketing, too, is unconven-tional. Potential tenants are attracted with advertisements that have a strip cartoon or a snakesand ladders format.

The success of the formula was shown last September when London Industrial managed to obtain £6 million of new capital to fund expansion. Since 1987, the

company has not only improved the estates it inherited, but completed three joint venture schemes with English Estates, at Cannon Wharf in the Surrey Docks, Brockley Cross, southeast London, and Pall Mall Deposit in west Kensington. together providing 150 units in

150,000 sq ft.
Twenty-three start-up businesses
have been established at the Alpha Business Centre, a development funded by the London borough of Waltham Forest and managed by London Industrial

Some tenants have inevitably been lost, mostly because of liquidation or retrenchment, but London Industrial believes its market bottorned out last July. The group's estates now have more tenants than last simmer.

Mr Porter has several aims. He wants the group to form closer relationships with local authorities, hoping to take on the management of their estates, to diversify from east London, where its main strength lies, to the west and south, and perhaps to provide larger premises for those tenants that are growing out of their premises. In the longer term, Mr Porter

wants to take London Industrial to the market by the end of 1994, either by flotation or reverse That would set the seal on the

group's ever-increasing contribu-tion to small businesses in the

Computers signal an end to open-plan The handbook provides practical

MOST empty office blocks throughout the country are likely to stay vacant, and not only because of the recession, a conference was told last week, Christopher Warman writes.

Launching a handbook "Intelligent Buildings: Planning and Managing the IT Infrastructure". Roger Camrass, of CSC Index, a management consultancy, says that even some recently built office blocks have not been planned to accommodate modern fechnology. This can ultimately make the blocks difficult to let or sell." Most new developers, he added, were now avoiding such problems.

surveyors and space planners who design, fit and refurbish buildings. If, as estimated, almost every office worker will have a computer rerminal or work-station by 2000. the effect will be dramatic. Not only do lighting needs differ for people using computers, but research has also shown that productivity on computer-intensive tasks is higher when people are given individual or small-team offices. "As these tasks become more common, there

will be moves from open-plan

towards smaller offices."

Camrass says.

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Holy site .

LANDMARK Place, a new office development at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, has a distinguished neighbour: it shares a site with a new church. The scheme is a UK-Finnish joint venture by Beazer Developments and Polar International, which built the church as part of the development deal. St Quintin and Connell Wilson, the agent, is asking £19.75 a sq ft for the penthouse floors at Landmark Place.

NatWest rejig

NATIONAL Westminster Bank has unveiled proposals for the refurbishment and restoration of

its offices at 1 Prince's Street in the City of London. The building, designed by Sir Edwin Cooper, was completed in 1931, but now has inadequate space, while some of the original features have been hidden.

AA spreads out

A £15 million contract for the construction of a new office complex in Basingstoke. Hampshire, for the Automobile Association has been signed by the AA and builders Higgs and Hill. The £26 million project is to be completed in 1994, and the three-storey buildings will stand alongside the AA's £22 million corporate data centre, which was opened in 1989.

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Are the lenders lacking in tact?

he timing could hardly have been worse for the Nationwide. Last month. the country's second largest building society was forced to issue a grovelling apology to one of its customers. The Nationwide had without warning mistakenly repossessed Peter Holmes's flat in north London at a time when the society was trumpeting its caring approach to mortgage repossessions.

All the resources of the Nationwide's press office were employed to apologise. If a good face could not be put on the story, perhaps one not entirely covered in egg would

The society explained that it believed the flat had been abandoned by Mr Holmes, who was in arrears of £11,000 on his £55,000 mortgage. Nationwide staff had visited the flat in West End Lane in West Hampstead and found nobody there. The society said it was unfortunate that a local estate agent, acting on the Nationwide's behalf to change the locks on the flat, was not accompanied by anybody from the society who might have realised the error.

The Nationwide's "unfortunate error" has now been rectified, to the extent that Mr Holmes's flat has Rachel Kelly on

two reports that. attack the attitudes

of the mortgage organisations.

been returned to him. But the society's action will do nothing to help the image of building societies as less than sensitive in their dealings with borrowers. The evicting landlord, twirling his moustache and finging families out into the snow, was a stock figure of phone of the impending re-Victorian melodrama. Building so-possession. "This is despite the fact cieties will have to act fast if they are not to be burdened with a similar

The case of Mr Holmes follows two recent reports which found that: mortgage lenders had been too ready to resort to repossession and have given inappropriate advice to

One report, "Repossessed: A fresh look at mortgage lending", published by the Catholic Housing Aid Society (Chas), which offers housing advice, says the behaviour of lenders last year contributed to

the unprecedented 75,540 mortgage repossessions.

A combination of factors underhe the current repossession crisis. but a too ready resort to repossession by mortgage lenders contributed to the unprecedented numbers of repossessions last year," says Sarah Jenkinson, the author of the report, which used 60 studies up to December from the files of Nat-

ional Debtline and Chas.

At all stages, lenders failed to give enough information about the rights and entitlements of borrow-ers. This is certainly a criticism that rings true in Mr Holmes's case. He was warned neither by letter nor that buying a home, invariably through a mortgage, is the largest and most important purchase a consumer is likely to make," Ms Jenkinson says. "Yet any small item of electrical equipment comes with more information on the rights and entitlements of the customer."

The report does not look at mortgage lender practice this year, but Ms Jenkinson says: "We believe the lenders are still repossessing when they need not, and are still giving inappropriate advice." A report from the National



"An unfortunate mistake," said the building society when it repossessed Peter Holmes's north London flat without warning

Consumer Council chimes with that from Chas. Lenders, it says, fail to give adequate help to borrowers, do not contact customers until it is too late, and then insist on unrealistic repayment schedules.

Mark Boleat, the director-general of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, admitted that lack of advice on the part of lenders was part of the problem. But he said that there was an assumption throughout such reports that more advice would solve the problems.

"Our research, and that of others, has found that repossessions are caused not by inappropriate loans but when the circumstances of the borrower change," he says. He denied that lenders were too quick to repossess homes. "Lenders think they are doing everything they can to help. The courts give protection if the lenders go too quickly," he said. "It makes no sense in the present

market for lenders to repossess." As for the case of Mr Holmes, Mr Boléat said it was an isolated incident. "You could probably find many more cases where lenders were very reasonable and the borrowers very grateful, but those people are not going to go public."

About 25,000 borrowers abandoned properties last year, Mr Boleat said. "The last thing a lender wants is a property to be repossessed. It's all very well to say that lenders should physically check whether a flat is empty but it's not always very easy to tell whether a flat has been abandoned. Usually

lenders are not quick enough to catch abandoned flats and the properties lie empty for a month or two, which costs the lender a lot."

The Nationwide is more repentant. The building society has tightened its reporting procedures on repossessions and stipulated that in future staff must be present when the estate agents change the

For Mr Holmes, it is too late, but the change may help others in his

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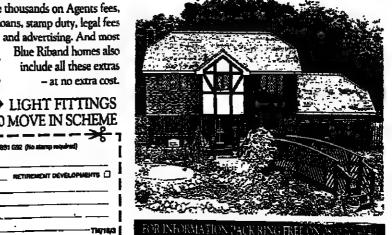
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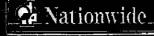
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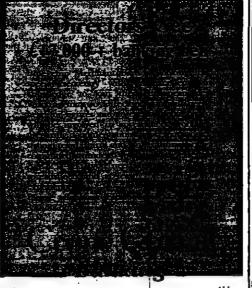


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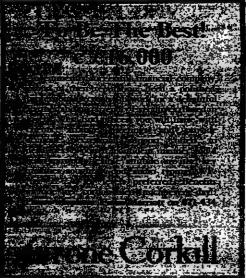
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Part performance of contract

plc v Ticehurst and Another Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Stocker

[Judgment March 11] An employer, without bringing a contract of employment to an end, was entitled to accept part performance by an employee who had withdrawn goodwill and who had every intention on his return to work after a strike of continuing that action.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment when allowing the appeal of British Telecommunications ple against the decisions by Judge Oddie in the Mayor's and City of London County Court on December 21. 1990 in favour of Mrs Alison Ticehurst and Mr Michael Thompson for sums due to them by BT who had refused to pay m for certain days in April 1990 because they had not proved that they were willing to perform in full their obligations under their contracts of

Mr Jeffrey Burke, QC and Mr Roy Lemon for BT; Mr Patrick Elias OC and Mr David Bean for Mrs Ticehurst and Mr

British Telecommunications GIBSON said that Mrs Ticehurst was employed as a buildings manager and Mr Thompson was employed as a computer support manager at BT's Stone Technical College, Staffordshire.

The case arose out of a pay increase industrial dispute between BT and the Society of Telecom Executives, a trade union which represented about 30,000 of the 40,000 executives of a certain grade employed by

From about June 1989 the union members were taking part in industrial action short of strike action and which consisted of a general withdrawal of goodwill, working strictly to conditioned hours and refusing to undertake new temporary advancement. In October 1989 the union intensified the industrial action which then centred on a withdrawal of

In February 1990, the union members voted in favour of tak-ing strike action in support of the pay claim and a half-day strike was called for April 6, 1990 and that thereafter "there would be a rolling campaign of strategic strikes" which would start at Stone with a two-day strike. Ars Ticenurs! and Mr ployee who took part in further industrial action was not willing LORD JUSTICE RALPH to honour the terms of his or her

contract of employment. On April 12, 1990 Mrs Ticehurst and Mr Thompson were told that as they had taken part in the two-day further strike they were to leave the premises. They were not suspended but were deemed to be on strike.

On April 17, 18, 19 and 20, 1990 they returned to work where they were requested to sign an undertaking to work in ac-cordance with the terms of their they refused to sign they were again asked to leave the premises. The judge had found that both Mrs Ticehurst and Mr Thomp-

son had been ready willing and able to return to work and awarded them sums for wages claimed by them to be due. It was necessary to imply a term to define the relevant duties of the

employees under their contracts of employment as a term "to serve the employer faithfully within the requirements of the contract". Such a term was necessarily to be implied in the case of a manager who was given charge of the work of other employees and who therefore had necessarily to be entrusted to exercise his or her judgment and discretion in giving instructions to others and in supervising their work. Such a

employers.

Participation by the employees in the concerted action of withdrawal of goodwill constitu breach of that implied term where those employees intended to con-tinue to participate in it.

The implied term was breached when the employee did an act, or omitted to do an act, which it would be within his or her contract and the discretion allowed him or her not to do, or to do, as the case might be, and the employee so acted or omitted to do that act, not in an honest exercise of choice or discretion for the faithful performance of his or her work but in order to disrupt the employer's business or to

could be caused. As the employees on their return to work were evincing an intention to continue to participate in the action of withdrawal of goodwill, BT were entitled, and without terminating the contracts of employment, to refuse to let them remain at work and to accept part performance only by them of their contracts of

Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Stocker agreed. Solicitors: Mr Colin R. Green; Lawford & Co, Richmond upon

County free to axe buses

v Hertfordshire Council, Ex parte County Three Rivers District

Before Mr Justice Roch [Judgment March 9]

The appropriate level of provision of public transport under section 63 of the Transport Act 1985 was matter for the county council concerned once it had identified the public transport requirements in its area. The council was entitled to take into consideration the funds it had available and. where part was contributed by

Mr Justice Roch so held in the Queen's Bench Division dismiss-ing an application by Three Rivers District Council for ju-dicial review of decisions by Hertfordshire County Council withdrawing certain bus services in its area.

Mr Stephen Hockman, QC and Mr Peter Gower for the applicant; Mr Duncan Ouseley for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE ROCH said Three Rivers Council had decided to stop contributing to the subsidy on bus services in its area for the year 1990/91. The subsidy had been paid to Hertfordshire County Council which provided the bulk of the money for the

The county council had then decided to withdraw financial support from certain services in

to ensure that such identified public transport requirements as were not met by commercial services were met by councils. It said the county council was under a duty to meet the services which would not otherwise be met and had no discretion as to whether or not to meet such requirements once identified.

His Lordship said the county

evidence that the county council's decision had been irrational, per-

Poll tax defaulter is entitled to hearing

Regina v Faversham and Sittingbourne Justices, Ex parte Ursell

Before Mr Justice Schiemann [Judgment March 13] Justices who had fixed a term of imprisonment for wilful refusal to

pay the community charge but

postponed the issue of the warrant on condition of future payment in instalments, under regulation Al (3)(b) of the Community Charges (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1989 SI No 438), should hold a further hearing, of which the debtor had had notice of the date and time and an opportunity to attend, before issuing a warrant of ment to prison following

breach of the condition. Mr Justice Schiemann so held in the Queen's Bench Division in granting an application for ju-dicial review to quash a decision of Faversham and Sittingbourne Justices to issue a warrant committing the applicant, Anna Ursell, to prison for 30 days. Mr Benedict Emmerson for the

applicant; the justices did not appear and were not represented. MR JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that the reasoning in R v Poole Justices, Ex parte Fleet [1983] 1 WLR 974) which concerned proceedings for collecting civil debts, seemed to apply to the

The justices appeared to have accepted that a second hearing

was necessary before the warrant

They did not, apparently, consider that it was necessary for the debtor to have notice of the date and time of such a hearing. They clearly thought that she would have nothing new to say.

They might well be right but she was entitled to be told of the date and time of the hearing as a matter of natural justice. The hearing affected her. It was held in public. She should have the right to be there. However, his Lordship did not accept that the hearing could not

proceed if she chose not to attend. The question arose: on what matter was a debtor entitled to address a court at such a hearing? Clearly she was entitled to put the authority to proof of non-pay-ment. Further, she was entitled to draw the court's attention to any change in circumstances since the decision to fix a term of imprisonon to fix a term of imprisonment which rendered it inexpedient for the warrant commitment to issue.

There had to be an inherent power in the court to vary its own order in a case where, since the decision was made, the debtor had become incapable of earning, for instance by reason of an In coming to that conclusion

his Lothship was conscious of the fact that under regulation 42(3) provision was made for a local authority to come back to the

of commitment was issued. They were right to do so. sub-regulation for the situation where the circumstances of the debtor had changed since a term of imprisonment was fixed.

Nonetheless the court could make good the deficiency of the regulations in that regard. It was difficult to believe that the law should treat a criminal who had been fined with greater consideration than a person who had failed to pay her community

In criminal proceedings the court could always change its mind and, if it had remitted the sum owed, then no imprisonment needed to be served. That facility was not available under the community charge legislation and the law would be very unsatisfactory if the court, having once fixed a term of imprisonment and postponed the issue of the warrant was thereafter forced on every occasion to issue the warrant if the money had not been paid.

One needed only consider an accident of the type mentioned. The court had to have a discretion to issue no warrant and was bound to allow the debtor an opportunity to address it prior to the exercise of its discretion as to whether or not the warrant should

Solicitors: Jane Coker & Co,

Limit to extrinsic evidence in VAT

Commissioners of Customs

Before Mr Justice Kennedy [Judgment February 20] A payment by a vendor of land to the purchaser as an allowance for sums expended by the purchaser to make the site safe for further eration" for the purposes

of the Value Added Tax Act 1983. The extent to which extrinsic evidence might be admitted for determining whether contracts gave rise to a liability for VAT remained strictly circumscribed and such evidence might not be introduced for the purpose of changing the legal character of a

Mr Justice Kennedy so held when giving judgment in favour of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise in an appeal under the Tribunals and Enquiries Act 1971 against the decision of a VAT tribunal of January 23. 1990 allowing an appeal by Battersea Leisure Ltd against an nt raised by the commissioners on July 18, 1988.

In 1984, the Central Electricity Generating Board held a com-

petition for proposals for the future of its redundant power station, a listed building, at Battersea. By the terms of the on the CEGB was to contribute about £1 million towards the cost of removing asbes-

tos from the site. Battersea Leisure were the successful party but, as the result of delays, the agreement provided by clause 22 for CEGB to allow a further sum in return for Battersea Leisure undertaking respon-sibility for the removal of asbestos.

The total remittance of the CEGB was £2,248,893 and on July 18, 1988 the Customs and Excise made a VAT assessment of £293,833.35, that being the tax element on the basis that the payment to Battersea Leisure was provisions of section 3(2)(b) of the 1983 Act. for a consideration under the

Battersea Leisure successfully appealed to a VAT tribunal which admitted extrinsic evidence including the purpose and motives of the parties, in that the removal was for the public good, in their negotiations leading up to

the contract Mr Nigel Pleming for the ommissioners: Mr John Tallon for the company.

MR JUSTICE KENNEDY said the supply of services was taxable under section 1 of the 1983 Act. Section 2 made it chargeable on any supply made by a taxable person in the course of any business. Was this an

xempt supply? Section 3(2)(b) provided, inter alia, that "anything which is not a supply of goods but is done for a consideration is a supply of ser-vices". Did Banersea do something for a consideration?

The word "consideration" had no statutory definition in the 1983 Act but had a special meaning in the English law of contract and was used in EC directives which were binding on

Article 2 of the Sixth Directive provided that the supply of services effected for a consideration by a taxable person would be CL to VAT In his Lordship's judgment this was not a case for the admission of extrinsic evidence. The nature of the transaction was apparent on

The extrinsic evidence that the tribunal had regard to only revealed something about the nego-tiations leading to the contract and had indeed tended to mis-

the face of the contract.

was something being done or to be done by Battersea Leisure which was directly linked to the payment being made by the CECB.

If extrinsic evidence was excluded there plainly was a supply of services directly linked to the dause 22 payments made by the

Battersea Leisure did not themselves undertake to remove asbestos and the CEGB had no interest in the freehold of the power station after March 11, 1987 but as Mr PLeming submitted, even if one took the extrinsic evidence into account, it was impossible to conclude that there was no service rendered in return for the pay-The tribunal was in error (i) in

admitting extrinsic evidence; (ii) in having regard to what it conceived to be the motives of the parties in relation to the removal of the asbestos and (iii) in concluding that the payments, which by virtue of clause 22(a) of the agreement the board was obliged to make, were to be made otherwise than for the supply of services within the meaning of section 3(2)(b) of the 1983 Act. Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise; Jolliffe & Co, Chester.

the Three Rivers district. CEGB.
It had to be admitted that

The applicant had contended that the aim of the 1985 Act was

council had a duty to identify public transport requirements and to secure the provision of such services as it considered appropriate to meet the requirements it had identified. What was appropriate was for the county council to decide.
On the evidence, there was no

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard; Mr W. J. Church, Hertford.

Rectification power limited

Building Society v Steed Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord

Judgment March 5 On a true construction of section 82 of the Land Registration Act 1925, a court had no general discretion to order rectification of the register in any case in which it might be thought just to do so. The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by Michael Derek Steed against the refusal by

Mr Justice Knox, on December 15, 1989, to order rectification of the register by the deletion of a charge by the plaintiffs on 2 Arlow Road, Winchmore Hill.

Mr Timothy Lloyd, QC and Mr Stephen Acton for Mr Steed; Mr Jonathan Rayner James, QC and Mr Clive Hugh Jones for the

LORD JUSTICE SCOTT said that the transfer in respect of which the charge arose had been

of the property, or the building society. It was voidable but not void. The question was whether the court had power to order rectification under section 82 of the 1925 Act.

There was a sense in which the power to rectify was undoubtedly discretionary. The words in section 82(1) were "may be rectified". It did not follow, however, that there was a general discretion to grant recification as that was limited to "any of the following COSES".

In his Lordship's opinion the scheme was reasonably clear. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) gave power to the court to make orders of rectification in order to give effect to property rights which had been established in an action or were clear.

Paragraph (c) enabled orders to be made by consent. Paragraphs (d) to (g) were intended to deal with errors of a particular charac-ter and paragraph (h) was added

Scots Law Report March 18 1992

any other errors.

The breadth of that provision was, his Lordship imagined, the reason why it was thought appro-priate to make the power exerciseable "where . . . it may be deemed just to rectify the reg-ister". There were no comparable words in any of the other

paragraphs. Paragraph (h) had been relied on by Mr Lloyd. But in order for it to be applicable some "error or omission in the register" or so "entry made under a mistake had to be shown.

The entry in the register of the building society's legal charge was not an error and was not voidable transfer had not been set aside and the case for rectification could not be brought under paragraph (h).
Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and

Lord Justice Purchas agreed. Solicitors: Chambers Rutland & Crauford, Finchley, Church End; Warrens Boves & Archer.

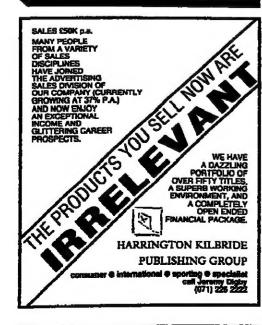
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Breach of interdict

McIntyre v Sheridan Before Lord Caplan

Judgment January 281 Where an individual was inter-dicted from impeding sheriff officers from carrying out their s, it was un had personally interfered with them in a physical manner for him to be found in breach of

Lord Caplan so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session, sentencing Thomas Sheridan to six months imprison-ment upon a minute for breach of interdict brought by Robert Me-

Intyre, Sheriff Officer. Miss Leona Dorrian for the minuters; Mr Derek Batchelor for

LORD CAPLAN said that the minuters, a firm of sheriff officers, had been instructed by a local authority to collect arrears of community charge from a debtor by holding a warrant sale.

The respondent had been inter-dicted from attending the sale or from impeding or otherwise inter-fering with the day-to-day busi ness of the minuters and the carrying out of their lawful duties, or from encouraging or instruct-ing others to do so.

On the morning of the sale the sheriff officers had been sitting in

their van at the yard where the sale was to take place when 30 or 40 people had come into the yard.
They had battered the side of
the van. They had let down the
tyres. They had begun to shake
the van to and fro and someone asked the crowd to stand clear of one side of the van, giving the occupants the impression that the intention was to overturn it.

They were terrified and pumped the horn frantically to attract police assistance. Meanwhile the crowd in the yard were increasing and were followed by the police, who had then restored The respondent had entered the

yard towards the rear of the crowd. Eventually there had been a crowd of about 200 to 250 people. After the police had surrounded the van the crowd had become more pacific. Many had carried placards protesting against the sale.
There had been some waving of

fists and some isolated scuffling. The respondent had stood on a platform on a number of occasions and addressed the crowd. He had been the only person to do so and had said, inter alia: "We would appeal to the polis not no protect these people. These people are nothing but soum and they shouldnae allow the warrant sale to take place." The respondent had held up a

piece of paper and said: "This interdict is to stop me and every single one of youse from being here today. As far as I'm con-cerned this is what they can do with their bloody interdict." He had then torn the paper he was holding and thrown the bits into the crowd. He had also

declared: "As far as we are

concerned there will be no sale."

impression that the respondent vas a person the crowd looked to for leadership. Moreover mem-bers of the crowd who had appeared to be active in the demonstration had conferred with him from time to time At 10.50am it had been de-cided to cancel the sale given the numbers of persons gathered at numbers of persons gathered at the yard and the threatening

viour that some elemen had shown themselves to be capable of. There had been no practical possibility that the sale could have taken place. Thereafter, the respondent had approached the senior police officer present and said that he could arrange to allow the van to leave the yard but the crowd would not leave before the van.

After the respondent spoke the crowd cleared a path for the van. The respondent had accepted that he was the chairman of the that he was the chairman of the Scottish Andi-Poll Tax Federation and that organisation had ar-ranged the assembly of the crowd, although it was said that that had been done before the interdict had been received.

His position was that his attendance and activities were simply a legitimate, political protest. He claimed that he had not called on the crowd to stop the sale. As he put it "I said nothing as specific as that." He accepted that people did tend to listen to what he said. He viewed his attendance at the sale as being in a personal capacity.

had torn up the interdict to demonstrate his contempt for the

manner in which it had been served and had told the court that it was obvious from his statements and acts that he had no intention of being bound by the interdict. Counsel for the respondent argued that the respondent had not been interdicted as chairman of the Scottish Anti-Poll Tax Federation or as part of the crowd. Moreover, he had not attended the sale since it was not

due to commence until I am. He had not physically impeded or interfered with the sheriff officers. It was not a breach of interdict to make a speech or articipate in a political protest. The crowd had already assembled and would have interrupted the

sale whatever the respondent had

In his Lordship's view, the actions of the respondent amounted to a flagrant and interdict. The respondent had arried out their law had also encouraged others to do

It could scarcely be contested that the crowd gathered in the yard had impeded and interfered with the minuters in the conduct of their business. Nor could it be disputed that the crowd had gathered with the object of stop-

ping the sale.

The respondent was quite mistaken if he considered that before it could be said that he had impeded or interfered with the sheriff officers it had to be shown that he had personally interfered with them in a physical manner. One impeded or interfered with sheriff officers if one did anything calculated and likely to obstruct the conduct of their lawful

The respondent had known that the crowd had contained elements who were unruly and aggressive. Nevertheless he had addressed the crowd in a manner which could only be described as inflammatory bot., in content and in manner of delivery. He had contemptuously torn up

taken as a representation to the crowd that their purposes merited ignoring the rule of law. He obviously had influence over the crowd and chose deliberately to give them a lead. He was extremely sanguine if he imagined that any saut in Scotland would ever tolerate activities which resulted in physical interference with the lawful

what appeared to be the interim Interdict which could only be

business of persons specifically appointed to act as officers of the court.
To interfere aggressively with officers of the court going about their lawful business was in itself a crime and that should be carefully considered by him and those who

night be tempted to repeat what had happened. In a democracy there were many forms of political protest which were available but ignoring court orders and obstructing sheriff officers were not among their

number. Law agents: Drummond Miller, WS; David Clark & Co.

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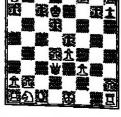
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By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

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Kelly with another round of the quiz (55420483)

2.15 Hawait Five-O. The first of a two-part crime mystery Once Upon a Time (7983079) 3.05 Help Your Child With Science. Ways energy is used (1474895) 3.15 Moment of Truth. Jennie and Herbie Watson as they train 13 delinquent dogs (r) (6970470) Herbie Watson as they train 13 definquent dogs (r) (8970470)

3.50 Caterpillar Trail. Children's wildlife seried. How plants and animals have created their own habitats alongside canals, motorways, docks and railways (r) (8268499) 4.05 Fiddley Foodle Bird. Animation (s) (4694760) 4.15 Jacksmory. Bernard Cribbins with part three of The Story of Doctor Doclittle (5860857) 4.30 The New Yogi Bear Show (r) (s) (8455673) 4.35 Bucky O'Hare 1999475)

5.00 Newsround (3522470) 5.10 A Likely Lad. Episode five of the sixpart children's drama. (Ceefax) (8) (2558741)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2230171)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather (147) 6.30 Regional News Magazines (499)
7.00 Liverpool in Europe. Live coverage of the Uefa cup querter-final second leg between Liverpool and Genoa at Anfield. The commentators are Barry Davies and Trevor Brooking (16499) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax). Regional news

and weather (723321)
9.50 Party Election Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative party

10.00 Q.E.D: The Miracle Man. CHOICE: After last week's sober offering about a family coping with death, O.E.D. is back on more familiar ground with a report from the United States on herbal medicine. Henry Murray, who made the film, has a lump on his neck. It has been diagnosed as a turnour. He hears about a wonder drug being developed from the leaves of a desert bush in the Arlzona desert and decides to give it a try. The bio-chemist from Switzerland who developed the drug claims spectacular success in treating conditions from cancer to baldness. Will it remove Murray's lump or is he being hoodwinked by a plece of superstitious nonsense? The film cannity leaves these questions dangling until the very last frames, while introducing us to the curiously untorthooming blo-chemist and

some of his more enthusiastic petients. (Ceetax) (31147). Wales: (to 10.40) Election 92 Special (to 10.40) Electron 92 Special Sportsinght introduced by Deamond Lynam. Boxing: the WBO flyweight title fight between Scotland's Pat Clinton and the Mexican Isidro Perez at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow; Football: highlights of FA cup quarter-finel replays and Liverpool's Uefa cup quarter-finel second leg match against Genoe (7014875)



A successful track record: singer Beverley Craven (11.50pm)

11.50 Beverley Craven in Concert. The singer recorded last year at the new Symphony Hall in Birmingham (r) (s) (545321)

12.30am On the Hustings (49529) 1.00 Weather (27529). Ends at 1.05

2.00 The Way Ahead. The ninth of 12 programmes explaining April's new benefits for the disabled (6548567). Ends at 2.15

BBC 2

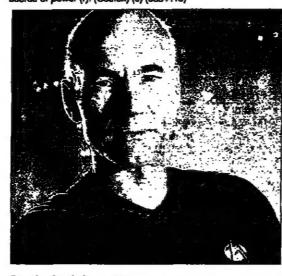
8.45 Open University: Town and Country in Ancient Rome (8783418).

Ends at 7.10 8.00 Breakfast News (9420418) 8.15 40 Minutes: A Cabinet of Curiosities (r) (8680686)

2.00 News and weather (74064050) followed by You and Me (r) (56524895) 2.15 Under Sail. The Windfall yachts, confiscated from the Germans after the second world war (r) (32716128) 2.35 Country File. Rural issues examined (f) (6844012) 3.06 News and weather (3380128) 3.05 High Chapanal. Western

adventures (6139296) 3.50 News, regional news and weather (4346857) 4.00 Catchword. Game for wordsmiths, presented by Paul Cois (352)

4.30 Kitty Gordon. Series featuring women first interviewed in the 1960s recalling the past 20 years. Today's subject was a London socialite with tastiton model aspirations (r). (Ceetax) (2408741) 5.10 Horizon: Hot Jam in the Doughnut, Nuclear fusion as a practical source of power (r). (Ceefex) (s) (9834418)



Captain Picard of the USS Enterprise: Patrick Stewart (6.00pm)

5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Science fiction adventures starring Patrick Stewart. (Ceelax) (637654)
6.45 DEF II begins with Reportage presented by Aminatta Forna (243499) 7.35 Rapido. Music and showbiz magazine introduced by Antoine de Caunes (652321)

8.05 Trouble Behind

 CHOICE: Corbin, a small town in south Kentucky, is best known as the birthplace of the fried chicken man, Colonel Sanders. This is not, however, a documentary about the fast food industry but a study of racism. Corbin owed its prosperity to the natiroad, which by the outbreak of the first world war was employing large numbers of black workers. But by 1919 southern whites were feeling under threat and the You Klux Klan had five million members, in one of nearly 30 racial explosions across the United States, the whites of Corbin drove the black railway workers out and the town still has no black residents. The film is both a reconstruction of the event and an attempt to locate racial undercurrents in Corbin today. The locals tend to put up a smokescreen when tackled on the subject but the old prejudices

9.00 Film: North Shore (1987) starring Matt Adler and Gregory Harrison.

A made-for-television surfing action movie about a young men who A made-for-television surfing action movie about a young men who goes to Hawaii after winning a man-made surfing competition in Arizona and learns that life is tougher when faced with the real thing. Directed by William Phelps. (Ceetax) (s) (5655)

Party Election Broadcast on behelf of the Conservative perty

(350695) 10.40 Newsnight presented by Peter Snow (505673) 11.35 The Late Show. Arts and media magezine (129147)

12.05em Weather (7125819)
12.20 Open University: What Was Modernism? (7120364). Ends at 12.50

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers now expearing next to each TV programme Seting are Video PlusCode® numbers, which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus-4P innorder. VideoPlus-4 can be used with most videos. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to report. For more details call VideoPlus on 0539 121204 (calls charged at 48p per minute peek, 38p off-peek) or write to VideoPlus-4 VIM Ltd., 77 Pulmer Paleos Plood, London W8 5JA Videoplus-4P), Pluscode (®) and Video Programmer are tredements of Germster Marketing Ltd.

ITV

6.00 TV-em (3396935)
9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word association game hosted by Lennis Bennett (9926031) 9.55 Tharnes News (6898418)
10.00 The Time...The Place... Topical discussion series

presented by Mike Scott (6347895)

10.40 This Morning. Magazine series introduced by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Today's edition includes Penny Junor's eeries in which writers discuss their work and technique; and slimming advice. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather (4109012)

12.10 Alleorts. Entertainment for children (s) (9002470)
12.30 Lunchtime ITN News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Russier.
(Oracle) Weather (7481012) 1.10 Thames News (77851215)
1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial (83424031) 1.50
A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (96657031)

2.20 Graham Kerr. The Antipodean cook is joined by Leah Chase from New Orleans and they prepare a new version of shrimp gurribo (46789147) 2.50 Take the High Boad. Soap set in the Highlands

3.15 ITN News headlines (3390505) 3.20 Thames News headlines (3397418) 3.25 The Young Doctors. Drame based in an Australian city hospital (8761470) 3.55 The Dreamstone. Cartoon fantasy series (s) (4387470) 4.20 Finders Keepers. Game show presented by Neil Buchanan (6383031) 4.50 Johanny Ball Reveals All. Johanny Ball with the first

of a new entertaining learning series (5887470) Blockbusters. Quiz game for teenagers. With Bob Holness

(8458760) 5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Westher

5.55 Thames Help. A look at campaigns for healthier children (r) (700012)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Oracle) (215) 6.30 Thames News. (Oracle) (885) 7.00 This is Your Life. Michael Aspel springs a surprise on enother unsuspecting worthy (8925)



Rovers' hotpot: Roy Barraclough, Charles Lawson (7.30pm) 7.30 Coronation Street. Jim McDonald stirs up trouble for Alec in the Rovers. Starring Roy Barraclough and Charles Lawson (609).

8.00 The Match. Live coverage of the European Cup winners' cup quarter-final second leg game between Tottenham Hotspur and Feyencord at White Hart Lane. The commentator is Brian Moore

(9505)

10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Travor McDonaid. (Oracle) Weather (26215) 10.30 Thames News (347321)

10.40 Film: Breakineart Pass (1975) starring Charles Bronson and Ben Johnson. Mystery western about a detachment of US Cavalry traveling by train to an outpost that is suffering from an outbreak of diptheria. During the journey they are joined by a US marshal and then mysterious deaths start to occur. Written by Alistair MacLean and directed by Tom Gries (21505147)

12.30 Visions. The beliefs of birth guru Shelia Kitzinger (r) (81797)

1.00 International Emmy Awards introduced by Roger Moore in New York. Awards for the world's top talevision programmes (49797)

2.00 Profile. The Pet Shop Boys talk about their music (6533635)

2.15 Amarica's Top Ten (s) (53890)

2.45 Videofsshion. A look at the International super-models (6671432)

3.10 Quiz Night. Pub and club team competition (37436180)

3.40 Stephen King's This is Horror (r) (29758345)

4.10 Along the Cotswoold Way. Clive Gurnell travels from Cleeve Hill to Winchcombe (65915187)

4.40 Fifty Years On (b.W.) Virtage newsreels (36106529)

5.00 Witness to Sunvival. With black athlete Witne Rudolph and legendary fire-fighter "Red" Adair (59567)

5.30 I'll Morning News with Phil Roman (91426), Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Channel 4 Dally (3396437)
9.25 Schools (54783147)
12.00 Noah's Ark. Spanish-made documentary series about the nature and environment of Venezuela (23128)

12.30 Business Daily. The latest news from the world's financial centres.

(75079)1.00 Sesame Street Entertaining early-learning series (63234)
2.00 Film: To Be or Not to Be (1942, b/w).

 CHOICE: Director Ernst Lubitsch was taking a risk when at the height of the second world war he decided to make a comedy set in occupied Poland. As his tale of a troupe of actors caught up with 15 the Nazis in Warsaw hit the screens, the flak was inevitable. Accusations of bad taste were compounded when the leading lady, Carole Lombard, was killed in an air crash soon after completing the film. Lubitsch was compelled to defend himself. He claimed that none of the jokes had been almed at the destruction of Warsaw and that his butts were the Nazis and actors who remained actors whatever the dangers around them. Half a century on the film can be enjoyed for the witty, irreverent masterplace it is. Jack Benny partners Lombard and there is line support from the Marx Brothers' stooge, Sig Rumann. (807437)

3.55 A Job Well Done. Cartoon (6300708)
4.00 Short Stories: The Big Issue. The story of Britain's first newspaper for the homeless and the characters who sell it on the

streets (r) (708)

4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (s) (692)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A look at the resurgence of racism in the United States, focusing on the lower town of Dubuque

5.55 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon (708654)
6.00 Kate and Ailie. American comedy series about two divorcees sharing a Greenwich Village home and single parenthood (857) 8.30 Toxight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are Ben Elton, Sharon Gless and Nik Cohn (s) (437)

7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) (839470)

7.50 Voters. Three voters from Dewabury discuss what they see as Important election issues (383465) okside. Sosp set in suburban Merseyside. (Teletext) (s) (5215) 8.30 Food File. This third of an eight-part series on food investigates whether supermarkets offer value for money (7050) 9,00 Dispetches.

OCHOICE: Anticipating the charges of bias that will inevitably be made as the election campaign prograsses, television gets its retaliation in early. Presented by Hugo Young, the film looks at how the political parties have perfected the art of manipulating election. coverage with the photo opportunity, the stage-managed rally and the careful placing of stories to catch news deadlines. These skills the careful placing of stories to catch news deadenes. These stories were pioneered by the Conservatives in 1979 but Labour has more than caught up. Television journalists feel they are surrendering editorial control too eleaily. The film does not ask how much it matters. In 1987 Labour fought a brilliant television campaign and was still trounced. At the same election the "two Davids" were considered a media disaster but the Alliance managed a decent 23

10.00 The Golden Girls. Delicious comedy about four women of a cartain age living together in Mismi. Tonight's special guest is Burt Reynolds. (Teletext) (24857)

10.30 The Jack Dee Show. More humour from the po-faced cornection He is joined by singer/songwriter Georgie Fame (s) (33505)



Comic exposes: the wacky television news team (11.00pm) 11.00 Drop the Deed Donkey, Topical cornecty set in a television

newsroom (6789) 11.30 Hero Hungry. Black comedy about a young journalist desperate for his byline to appear in the newspaper. As the Falklands war enupls he decides to invent a national hero. Starring Christopher Fulford (723437)

12.15em Tonight with Jonathen Ross (r) (s) (75068)
12.46 Dick Spanner. Puppet private eye series created by Gerry
Anderson (9918664). Ends at 12.50

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

SKY ONE:

9 Via the Astra and Manoopolo satellites.

8.00em The DJ Kat Show (80332031) 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot (820135) 8.55 Playabout (8417599) 9.10 Cartoons (8271637) 9.30 The Nere Leave it to Beaver (19437) 10.00 Massice (37418) 10.30 The Young Doctors (89709) 11.00 The Bold and the Beautist (18234) 11.30 The Bold and the Beautist (18234) 11.30 The Young and the Fleatiess (87760) 12.30pm Barnety Jones (92012) 1.30 Another World (8453002) 2.20 Senta Barbara (54692295) 2.45 Wife of the Week (862306) 2.15 The Bracky Bunch (297608) 3.45 The DJ Kat Show (7157147) 5.00 Diffrent Stocker (4875) 5.30 Bewisched 3.45 The CJ Ket Show (7157147) 5.00 Defrient Strokes (4875) 5.30 Bewitched (3576) 6.00 Facts of Life (8401) 6.30 Candid Camera (1363) 7.00 Love at Find Sight (4019) 7.30 Totally Heldon Video (6645) 6.00 Battleater Gefaction (35469) 9.00 Chances (48963) 10.00 Stude (71769) 10.30 Night Court (80437) 11.00 Sernly Spoon (46825) 12.00 Against the Wind (99155) 1.00am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS SKY NEWS

• Vis the Auth and Mamopolio satellites. News on the hour.

• John Survine (6597895) 9.30 The Contentions (17078) 10.00 News, incl Ecition Prioneth (12418) 11.00 Dayline (28942) 11.30 Nightline (17505) 1.30pm Good Morning America (91383) 2.30 Good Morning America (18383) 3.30 Travel Destinations (28925) 4.30 Pastion TV (7705) 5.00 Live at Five (28505) 9.30 Newsider (71863) 8.30 Facilion TV (13857) 10.30 Target (13857) 12.30am Newsider (78818) 1.20 ABC News (68384) 2.30 Mamories (47277) 3.30 ABC News (42722) 4.30 Memories (77345) 5.30 Newsides (37242)

SKY MOVIES Vie the Astra and Marcopolo set

6.00km Showcase (3901321) 10.00 Mystery Mansion (1963) (84741) 12.00 Frog Gri (8415) 1.00gm All the Kide Do It (1964): A boy's athletic tutue is curtained (18458) 2.00 Speced Invaders (1990): Five Marisins 2.00 Spaced invaders (1980): Five Merisons presidend on Earth on Hallowe'en (32302)

4.00 The Waching of Ben Wagner (1987): A Guye 'n' Dolle (52789) 10.30 The Addisms boy betriands a girl whose mother is a wach (51853079) 5.40 Entertainment Toright (758383) SKY SPORTS

S.40 Enterhaltement Yonight (758383)
8.00 Fire: Trapped on the 37th Floor
(1991): True-We desembly S.505)
8.00 Nowhere to Hide (1997): Array Medigan
is pursued by her husband's killers (2485)
10.00 Dark Angel (1993): Policeman Dolph
Lundgren resion an inter-galactic drags
dealer (25428)
11.35 Cestherine Cherte (1982): Erotic
drams (3991): 3.50 World
1.20am Night School (1987): Connecty set in
a reform school (4021191)
2.50 Marcher in Black and White (1990):
Two detectives investigate the killing of a
black police chief (33469): Horror at a house
4.30 Ghoules (1985): Horror at a house
8.00am Very Control (1983) 10.00
9 Vis the Astra and Marcopolo sestalities.
9 Vis the Astra set Marcopolo sestalities.
9 V

10.15 The Belle of the residence (1942, b/w): 12.00 Arsenic and Old Lace (1942, b/w): 12.00 Arsenic and deduction who

black police chief (83456)
4.30 Ghoulee (1985): Horror at a housewarriarg party (2620074). Endie at 5.50

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

• Vis the Astra and Mercopolo stdelline.
6.15em Blackwalf (1825, b/w): Altred
historock's debut table (70556793)
7.50 Stand Up and Cheer (1994, b/w):
Estatralimment revue (428469)
9.05 The Midding of Oldehoma and South
Pacific: Documentary (500873)
10.15 The Belle of the Nineties (1834, b/w):
Starring Mae West (10851236)

• Vis the Astra stdelline.

8.00em Termis ATP Tour (50883) 10.00

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SCREENSPORT

Starting Maie West (10551236)
12.00 Arraenic and Old Lace (1942, b/w):
Black cornedy about two elderly datans who
murder gentiamen callers (19642982)
2.15pm Bradys on the Move (1990):
Adventure with the Beady Sunch (853944)
4.00 The Fantantic World of D.C. Collins
(1934): Gary Colemen is pursued by secret
agents (11210978)
5.50 Spotlight (69447)
6.15 Columbor Murder in Medibu (1990):
Starting Peter Fell. (47313708)
9.00 Powerow Highwey (1999): A Cheyenne Indian sets out to rescue his eleter from
a New Medico jall (15555375)
10.35 Stella. (1999): A single moster
struggies to race ber daughter (1971895): Four
outre startes (7003780)

12.25em Grim Prairie Tales (1989): Four errer stories (703770)
1.55 California Surie (1971) (160180)
3.40 Night of the Generale (1967): A Neci investigate a general perceivant for mardering proceduries (80574161). Encia at 6.00
THE COMEDY CHANNEL.

9 Vis the Astra satisfies.
4.00pcm Mr Ed (8234) 4.30 Perticont Junction (4418) 5.00 The New Leave it to Server (8505) 5.30 Greenecree (8470) 8.00
Herd's Lucy (5380) 8.30 F Troop (898) 7.00
McHalafa New (8741) 7.30 The Addems Family (5147) 8.00 Doctor, Doctor (4789) 8.30 Arm Jisan (3236) 9.00 Hogen's Heroes (87302) 9.30 Here's Lucy (83147) 10.00

1.00 Julisbox Music Videos (718321) 10.00

1.00 Julisbox Music Videos (718321) 10.00

1.00 Julisbox Dance (80762)

FM Stenso and MW. 4.00em Bruno Bruno

PAD10 2

FM Sterec. 4,00m Stere Mexicien: The Early
FM Sterec. 4,00m Stere Mexicien: The Early
FM Sterec. 4,00m Stere Mexicien: The Early
Show 8.15 Pause for Thought 8.30 Brian
Hayes: Good Moming UK 9.15 Pause for
Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jmmy Young 2.00pm Glone Humiltord 9.30 Ed Stervert 5.05
Chris Stuari 7.00 The Law Game 7.30 Festivals of Betsler. Hocktide Caroline Righton
parhopaties are two-day introde-up in Humperford (4 of 9) 8.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on Two 9.00
Nigel Digital: The Organist Entertains 9.45 Stall We Dauce: Altin Sylvas presents the first of
eight programme of strict tempo denous 10.30 The Jeroseon 12.05em Jazz Periode 12.85
Alex Lester with Night Stole 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

Nove and sport on the hour until 7.00pm.
6.10em Criciast World Cup. England v
2mbabwe from Albuy 7.20 Denny Belear's
2mbabwe from Albuy 7.20 Denny Belear's
2.30pm Education Malters 1.00 News Update 1.15 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (r) 1.30 SFBS Worldwide:
3mon and the Squad 2.30 World Servicer Discovery; 3.05 Outlook; 3.30 Tast; 3.45 Good
Books; 4.05 Development 32 4.36 Five Aside 6.16 Deepends to Act (r) 6.30 Fleying Beetle
Bow The final part of Authority Park's Authrition advertiger 7.10 Champion Sport, with Jon
Champion Footbalt Tottenham v Feyendord in the second girl of the European Cup Winners'
Cup; Liverpool v Genous in the Uefa Cup 10.10 Hit the North, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am
News; Sport

News: Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30em World Business Report 4.40 Times and Weather 4.45 News and Press Review in German 5.00 Mergenmagezin 5.20 Tips für Touristen 5.24 News in German 5.30 Europe Today 6.00 News 6.09 News 4.00 News 8.05 News

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

BORDER CATILLETS
As London except: 2.15-3.15 Yes 58k Fload (25585) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (345976) 6.00 Looleround Wachnedey (215) 5.30-7.00 Blockbusters (95) 12.30 Wolf (795372) 1.25 Dometrus (8016008) 2.30 Wolf (795372) 1.25 Dometrus (8016008) 2.30 Chern-Aktractions (400445)) 2.45 Fibro My General (900554) 4.45 Short Story Treatre (40441722) 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder (400556)

CENTRAL As London except: 2.20 in the Northern Wilde (46769147) 2.50-3.15 The Young Doctors (6852081) 3.25-3.55 Take the High Road (6761470) 6.25-7.00 Central News

As London except: 2:29-2:50 Coming of Age (45795147) 8:30-7:00 Graneds Torright (985) 12:30 Wolf (7953722) 1:25 Donehue (9016906) 2:20 ChennAtractions (4634451)

2.45 Film: My General (609364) 4,45 Short Story Theatre (49411722) 5.10-5.80 Jothinder (4035567) HTV WEST As London encept: 1,50-2.20 The Young Doctors (98857081) 3,25-3,55 A Country Practice (9761470) 5,10-5,40 Home and Avery (9685790) 8,00 HTV News (215) 6,30-7,00 Blockbusters (685)

HTV WALES As HTV Wind except: 6,00 White at Six

TSW As London except: 3.29-3.55 Home and Assay (9779489) 5.10-5.40 Take the High Road (94959789) 6.00 TSW Today (215) 6.39-7.00 Elocidusters (986) 12.50 Wolf (7953722) 1.25 Donahus (9016905) 2.20 ChremAtractions (4824451) 2.45 Fibr: My General (903969) 4.45 Short Blory Theatre (49411722) 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder (4033567)

7.00 Sio. As London sweept: 1.90-2.20 The Young Doctors (88957031) \$.25-3.25 Sone and Deughters (8761-470) 5.10-5.40 Home and Ause (8761-8780) 8.00 Coset to Coset (215) (81829) 6.30-7.00 Blookbusters (895) 12.30-1.00 in Search Ot... (91797)

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agent or Dan-Air direct on 0345 100200.



ROMF . MANCHESTER . BARCELONA . PARIS

As London except: 2:20-2:80 Gardening Tips (46769147) 6:25-7:00 Angle News (997973) 12:20-1:00 Bude 3el (61797)

(90014) 12.20 Might Heat (20035) 2.20 (90014) 12.20 Might Heat (20035) 2.20 Pino: Subwey in the Sky (5230546) 3.55 Stephen King's: This is Horror 4.25 Affred Histocoat Presents (73709600) 4.90-6.30 Contrel Jobilindar '92 (1046980)

RADIO 3

8.55am Weather: News Headines
7.00 Morning Concert: Bach
(Three-part Invention No 11 in
G minor, BWY 797); Poulenc
(Organ Concerto) 7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (conf);
Handel (Concerto Grosso in G,
Op 3 No 3); Purcel (Checony
in G minor); Shostetovich
(Plano Cuintet, Op 57)
8.36 News
8.35 Composers of the Week:
Borodin. In the Steppes of
Central Asia (Gothenburg SO
under Neems Jarvi); String
Quartet No 1 in A (Borodin
String Quartet); Polovisian
Dences, Prince Igor, Act 2
(Gothenburg SO and Chorus
under Jarvi)
8.36 Midweek Cholce, with Susen
Shape. Gimenez (Intermezzo,
La Boda de Lufs Alonso: ECO
under Enrique Garcta
Asensio); Vaughen Williams
(Jene Scroop, Her Lament for
Philip Sparrow: Priffus Marker,
mezzo); Thomas B. Pitfield
(Flondo Lirico: Leon Goossens,
obse. David Lloyd, ciano):

mezzoj; Thomas B. Prifeld (Rondo Lirico: Leon Goossens, oboe, David Lloyd, pierroj; Gilnka (Polonaise and Weltz, A Life for the Tsar: USSR SO under Svettenov); Mehler (Plano Quartet movement: Domus): Barber (Knoxville — Summer of 1915: Orchestra of St Luke's under David Zinmen, with Dawn Lloshaw. Zinmen, with Dawn Upshaw, sopreno); Rechmeninov (Cel Sonata in G minor, Op 19:

Sonata in G minor, Op 19: Paul Torteller, cello, Aldo Ciccollni, plano); Sullivan, am Stanford Robinson (Sevrey Dancas: Pro Arte Orchestra under Stanturd Robinson)
11.40 Ulatar Orchestra under Yan Pascal Torteller parforms Bariloz (Romeo and Juliet, Love Scorre); Dobussy (La Mer); Jongen (Symphonie Concertants for organ and orchestra: Gillian Weir) (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Concert Hell: Leland Chen, violin, Clare MacFarlane, violia, Caroline Dearmley, cello, Julius Drake, piano, perform

Caroline Dearnley, cello, Juliu
Drake, piano, perform
Schumerin (Adegio and
Allegro, Op 70); Ravel
(Tzigene); Schumerin (Plano
Quartet in E filti, Op 47)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.10 Vintage Years: Lawrance
Collegwood conducts Rimsky
Korsakov (Dance of the

Tumblers, The Snow-Meiden: Philhamonis Orchestra); Philhamonis Orchestra); Wagner (Du bist der Lenz, Die Walker: London SO; with Göta Ljuncherg, sopreno, Walter Widdop, tenor); Saint-Saëns (Minuet, Cello Concerto No 1: Guilhamina Suggia, cello); Museongsisy (Trepak, Songs and Dances of Death: Feodor Challapin, bass); Zeller (Nightingale Song, Der Vogelhändler; Elleabeth Schumerm, sopramo); Elgar (Triumphsi March, Caractacus: London SO); Verdi (Mightingale Song, Der Chorus and Orchestra, with

Trovatore: Sadier's Wells
Chorus and Orchestra, with
Joen Cross, soprano, Webster
Booth, tenor); Elgar (Beverier
Dence No T: London 90)
4.00 Choral Eveneeng: Live from
the National Cathedral of
St Patrick in Dublin
5.00 Feetivel of the Goddees:

Ceremonial music recorded at the 1991 testival of Dasak at Shaktapur in Nepal 5.30 Mainly for Pleasure 7.00 News 7.05 Third Ear: David Roper chairs

a discussion on elitism and populism in the public library 7.30 Towards Bach: La Petite 7.30 Towards Bach: La Petite
Bande under Kuijken performs
Luby (Suite from Roland);
Bach (Orchestral Suite No 2 in
B minor, BWY 1067); George
Muffat (Suite, Leets Poesis in
G); Bech (Orchestral Suite No
4 in D, BWY 1059) (r)
8.50 Debat: The plankst Reymond
Clarke plays Szymanowski
(Sonets No 3, Op 36);
Parufink (Pentasonalus)

Panufrik (Pentasonals) Blaze of the Riging Sun: The progress of Japanese science progress of Japanese science and technology (r) 10.10 Roussell (Deux poames chinois, Op 47: Two Songs, Op 50; Sonatine; Two Songs, Op 20; Le bechellar de Salamanque; Sarabande Odes anacreontiques Opp 31 and 32: Three Plano Pieces, Op 49)

10.55 Allessandro Piccinini: in the first of two programmes, Nigel North, chitarrone, plays toccatas, arise and dences from the 1623 and 1639 collections 11.30 News 11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: Honegger (r) 1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland) (as Fadio 5 at 9am)

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAYALLE

TYNE TEES
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8458790) 6.00 Northern Life (215) (54554296) 12.40 Sict Melthrin (6171321)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM 5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, Incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Ferming Today 8.25 Prayer for the Day (s) 8.30 Today, Incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News

9.00 News 9.05 Election Call: 071-799 5000. Voters are invited to ring Alan Beith, Liberal Democrat spokesman on the sconomy 10.00-10.30am News; The Trade Rag (FM only): The Dentist, Nick Baker looks at the lifth of

Nick Baker looks at the fifth of six newspapers and magazines serving different trades or professions (s) 10.00 Delty Service (LW only) 10.15 The Bible (LW only) Jeremish. Read by Alan Bates (4 of 7) 10.30 Woman's Hour discusses ethnic minorities and the environmental movement. Incl 11.00 News 11.30 Gerdeners' Queetion Time.

11.30 Gerdeners' Question Time.
Members of the Drotwich Spa District Horticultural Society in Worcestershire put their

Worcestershire put their queries to the experts (r)

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Margaret Collins

12.25pm Lord Edgware Dies: Agathe Christie's novel in a five-part dramatisation by Michael Bekewell. With John Molfatt as Hercule Potot (s)

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping 2.00 News; My Uncle Freddie. The last of Alex Ferguson's trilogy (s)

The last of Alex Ferguson's tritogy (a)

2.47 The Black Heart: Pauf Hyland continues his journey up the river Congo into Jeseph Conrad's Heart of Derkness (2 of 4) (r) 3.00 File on 4 (r)

3.42 Profile: A radio portrait of Nicholas Kenyon, controller of Radio 3 4.00 News

4.05 Kellekdosoppe reviews the

Hading 3 4.00 News:
Kaleidoscope reviews the
week's film releases, including
Shining Through and Bugsy:
fistens to acolean harps; and
talks to Chris Frayling about
his biography of Clint
Eastwood (s)
Short Short A Pichica et Van

4.45 Short Story: A Picture of You, by Daphne Glazer 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

FRECUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053id-tz/295m;1089id-tz/275m;FM-97.6:99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 158id-tz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 953id-tz/435m; 908id-tz/330m. LBC; 1152id-tz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548id-tz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458id-tz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648id-tz/463m.

4.50-7.00 Biockbusters (895) 12.30 Wolf (7953722) 1.25 Domehus (8019905) 2.20 Chem/Attractions (4024451) 2.45 Film: My General (800396) 4.45 Short Story Theatre (40411722) 5.10-5.30 Jobinder (403557) 2.20 Film: Laughter in Paracles* (Alaertal (40411722) 5.10-5.30 Jobinder (403557) 2.20 Film: Laughter in Paracles* (Alaertal (4041172) 5.10-5.30 Jobinder (403557) 2.30 Film: Laughter in Paracles* (Alaertal (40557) 2.20 Jobinder (403557) 2.30 Film: Laughter in Paracles* (Alaertal (40576) 2.30 Jobinder (403557) 2.30 Film: Laughter in Paracles* (Alaertal (40576) 2.30 Jobinder (403557) 2.30 Jobinder (403557) 2.30 Jobinder (403557) 3.30 Jobinder (40576) 3.30 Film: Laughter in Paracles* (Alaertal (40676) 3.30 Jobinder (40576) 3.30 Jobinder (40576)

| Western | 2.45 Pilm: My General (000394) | Ad5 Short Story Theathe (49411722) 5.10 | 5.50 Jobinster (403597) | 1.20 Sten Launet (32909944) | 1.225 The Flower Shop (573483) 1.00 News (32909945) | 1.20 Flower Shop (573185) | 1.20 Flower Sho

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Counterpoint (s) (r) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Costing the Earth (FM only)

7.20 Costing the Earth (FW Chip)
(1)
7.45-8.00 Thom in Our Flesh (FM Chip): A series of talks for Lent. Dr Andrew Coyle describes a prison governor's reaction to the teaching of Jesus of Nazureth (a)
7.20 Woman's Hour (LW only) (r)
8.00 Medicine Now (r)
8.30 Immortal Diamonds: The End of All Our Exploring, Rosemary Hartill examines the relationship between God and

ration examines the relationship between God and the poet T.S. Eliot's Four Quarters (a)

9.00 in Business: Bumping Along the Bottom

CHOICE: In Business returns with an investigation that should more accurately be called Out of Business for it is about recession-hit firms It is about recession-hit firms that have gone to the wall. We hear tales of woe that will affect the finitiest of hearts. At one stage, Peter Day's interrogation is briefly suspended while a wite sheds tears. Not all is gloom and doom, however. There is the kitchen-and-hattmom. doom, however. There is the kitchen and bathroom company that thrives by ignoring the recession, and the office furniture firm that

the once runture arm that fourishes thanks to strict cash control. Bankers emerge as the principal villains of the piece. A hopeful sign is that in Durham, they are going back to school Kaleidoscope (c) (1)

9.30 Keleidescope (s) (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight
(s) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The
Brown Wallet, by Stacey
Aumonier (final part)
11.00 End of a Line: Coracle
Fishermen. The final
programme about traditional

programme about traditional ways of life that may soon be coming to an end. When coming to an end, When seven sters shine at right, the coracle men of Camarthen draw lots and set off for a night's fishing, with coracle boats on their backs (r) 11.30 Today in Parliament 12.00-12.43am News, Incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 World Service (LW only)

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